Annual Report
of the
Commissioner
of
Indian Affairs
for
1848.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, November 30, ~~1846~~. 1848

SIR: I have the honor to lay before you the usual annual exposition of the condition and affairs of this branch of the public service; the details of which, to a considerable extent, will be found in the accompanying reports and statements of the superintendents, agents, and sub-agents of the Department, and other persons connected with it; some of which are of peculiar interest, and all worthy of perusal—furnishing, as they do, the latest and most authentic information respecting the condition and prospects of the remnants of an interesting people, who once held undisputed sway over the territory we now occupy, but who have gradually melted away before the advance of civilization, or, in broken groups, been swept westward by the pressure and rapid extension of a more intelligent and enterprising race.

While, to all, the fate of the red man has, thus far, been alike unsatisfactory and painful, it has, with many, been a source of much misrepresentation and unjust national reproach. Apathy, barbarism, and heathenism must give way to energy, civilization, and christianity; and so the Indian of this continent has been displaced by the European; but this has been attended with much less of oppression and injustice than has generally been represented and believed. If, in the rapid spread of our population and sway, with all their advantages and blessings to ourselves and to others, injury has been inflicted upon the barbarous and heathen people we have displaced, are we as a nation alone to be held up to reproach for such a result? Where, in the contest of civilization with barbarism, since the commencement of time, has it been less the case than with us; and where have there been more general and persevering efforts, according to our means and opportunities, than those made by us, to extend to the conquered all the superior resources and advantages enjoyed by the conquerors? Of the magnitude and extent of those efforts but little comparatively is generally known.

Stolid and unyielding in his nature, and inveterately wedded to the savage habits, customs, and prejudices in which he has been reared and trained, it is seldom the case that the full blood Indian of our hemisphere can, in immediate juxtaposition with a white population, be brought farther within the pale of civilization than to adopt its vices; under the corrupting influences of which, too

indolent to labor, and too weak to resist, he soon sinks into misery and despair. The inequality of his position in all that secures dignity and respect is too glaring, and the contest he has to make with the superior race with which he is brought into contact, in all the avenues to success and prosperity in life, is too unequal to hope for a better result. The collision is to him a positive evil. He is unprepared and in all respects unfitted for it; and he necessarily soon sinks under it and perishes. It must be recollected, too, that our white population has rapidly increased and extended, and, with a widening contact, constantly pressed upon the Indian occupants of territory necessary for the accommodation of our own people; thus engendering prejudices and creating difficulties which have occasionally led to strife and bloodshed—inevitable between different races under such circumstances—in which the weaker party must suffer. Hence, it is to natural and unavoidable causes, easily understood and appreciated, rather than to wilful neglect, or to deliberate oppression and wrong, that we must in a great measure attribute the rapid decline and disappearance of our Indian population. Cannot this sad and depressing tendency of things be checked, and the past be at least measurably repaired by better results in the future? It is believed they can; and, indeed, it has to some extent been done already, by the wise and beneficent system of policy put in operation some years since, and which, if steadily carried out, will soon give to our whole Indian system a very different and much more favorable aspect.

The policy already begun and relied on to accomplish objects so momentous and so desirable to every Christian and philanthropist is, as rapidly as it can safely and judiciously be done, to colonize our Indian tribes beyond the reach, for some years, of our white population; confining each within a small district of country, so that, as the game decreases and becomes scarce, the adults will gradually be compelled to resort to agriculture and other kinds of labor to obtain a subsistence, in which aid may be afforded and facilities furnished them out of the means obtained by the sale of their former possessions. To establish, at the same time, a judicious and well devised system of manual labor schools for the education of the youth of both sexes in letters—the males in practical agriculture and the various necessary and useful mechanic arts, and the females in the different branches of housewifery, including spinning and weaving; and these schools, like those already in successful operation, to be in charge of the excellent and active missionary societies of the different Christian denominations of the country, and to be conducted and the children taught by efficient, exemplary, and devoted men and women, selected with the approbation of the Department by those societies; so that a physical, intellectual, moral, and religious education will all be imparted together.

The strongest propensities of an Indian's nature are his desire for war and his love of the chase. These lead him to display tact, judgment, and energy, and to endure great hardships, privation, and suffering; but in all other respects he is indolent and inert,

physically and mentally, unless on occasions for display in council, when he not unfrequently exhibits great astuteness and a rude eloquence, evincing no ordinary degree of intellect. But anything like labor is distasteful and utterly repugnant to his feelings and natural prejudices. He considers it a degradation. His subsistence and dress are obtained principally by means of the chase; and if this resource is insufficient, and it be necessary to cultivate the earth or to manufacture materials for dress, it has to be done by the women, who are their "hewers of wood and drawers of water." Nothing can induce him to resort to labor, unless compelled to do so by a stern necessity; and it is only then that there is any ground to work upon for civilizing and Christianizing him. But little, if any, good impression can be made upon him in these respects, so long as he is able freely to roam at large and gratify his two predominant inclinations. Nor can these be subdued in any other way than by the mode of colonization, to which reference has been made. When compelled to face the stern necessities of life and to resort to labor for a maintenance, he in a very short time becomes a changed being; and is then willing, and frequently eager, to receive information and instruction in all that may aid him in improving his condition. It is at this stage that he begins to perceive and appreciate the advantages possessed by the white man, and to desire also to enjoy them; and, if too far advanced in life for mental instruction himself, he asks that it may be provided for his children. Such is the experience in the cases of several of the tribes not long since colonized, who a few years ago were mere nomades and hunters; and, when settled in their new countries, were opposed to labor and to anything like schools or missionaries; but who are now desirous of both the latter for the benefit of their children and themselves, and are becoming prosperous and happy from having learned how to provide a certain and comfortable support for themselves and their families by the cultivation of the soil and other modes of labor. The most marked change, however, when this transition takes place, is in the condition of the females. She who had been the drudge and the slave then begins to assume her true position as an equal; and her labor is transferred from the field to her household—to the care of her family and children. This great change in disposition and condition has taken place, to a greater or less extent, in all the tribes that have been removed and permanently settled west of the Mississippi. It is true, that portions of some of them enjoyed a considerable degree of civilization before they were transplanted; but prior to that event they were retrograding in all respects; while now, they and others who have been colonized and confined within reasonable and fixed limits, are rapidly advancing in intelligence and morality, and in all the means and elements of national and individual prosperity; so that before many years, if we sacredly observe all our obligations towards them, they will have reached a point at which they will be able to compete with a white population, and to sustain themselves under any probable circumstances of contact or connexion with it. If this great end is to be accomplished, however,

material changes will soon have to be made in the position of some of the smaller tribes on the frontier, so as to leave an ample outlet for our white population to spread and to pass towards and beyond the Rocky mountains; else, not only will they be run over and extinguished, but all may be materially injured.

It may be said that we have commenced the establishment of two colonies for the Indian tribes that we have been compelled to remove; one north, on the head waters of the Mississippi, and the other south, on the western borders of Missouri and Arkansas, the southern limit of which is the Red river. The northern colony is intended to embrace the Chippewas of Lake Superior and the upper Mississippi, the Winnebagoes, the Menomonies, such of the Sioux, if any, as may choose to remain in that region, and all other northern Indians east of the Mississippi (except those in the State of New York,) who have yet to be removed west of that river. The southern boundary of this colony will be the Watab river, which is the southern limit of the country of the Winnebagoes, who have removed there from Iowa within the last year. The Menomonies, now residing near Green Bay in Wisconsin, are to be located above and adjoining the Winnebagoes; a treaty having very recently been concluded with them to that effect. Above these, to our northern boundary line, and westward to the Red river of the north, the country is owned by the Chippewas, many of whom now live there, though they still own a large tract east of the Mississippi, computed at 10,743,000 acres, and lying above a line running nearly due east, from opposite the junction of the Crow Wing and Mississippi rivers, to a point about 92° 15′ west longitude; thence due north to the St. Louis river, and down that river to Lake Superior. Many live north of the above line, but, as stated in my last annual report, a considerable number still remain south of it, on lands heretofore ceded by them, which, for reasons given at that time, they should soon be required to leave for their own country. But with reference to the civilization and welfare of these people, it would be a wise, and even necessary measure, to purchase all the lands they own east of the Mississippi, and concentrate them altogether upon those that would still remain to them west of that river. Until this shall have been done, they will continue in so dispersed a condition that it will be difficult, if not impossible, to do anything effective towards their permanent improvement. You are aware that an effort to effect such a purchase was made last year and failed; but it is believed, that if renewed, in connexion with the removal of those on the ceded lands, and the transfer of the agency to the Mississippi from Lapointe, Lake Superior, where it now is, it would be successful. These people and the Menomonies being removed west of the Mississippi, the remaining Indians east of that river to be sent to this colony, would probably not exceed three thousand six hundred. Of the Sioux it is not probable many will remain for any considerable period in the Mississippi region. Wild and untameable, and scattered over an immense extent of country, no effort could concentrate them; and, living wholly by the chase, they will probably follow the buffalo and other

game as it gradually disappears, towards the Rocky mountains; either in the direction of the head waters of the Platte or those of the Missouri river, or both.

If the Kanzas river were made the northern boundary of the southern colony there would be ample space of unoccupied territory below it for all the Indians above it that should be included in this colony. But the Delawares, Pottawatomies, and possibly the Kickapoos, who, or nearly all of whom, are just above that river, it would not probably be necessary to disturb. Above these, and on or adjacent to the frontier, are the band of Sacs and Foxes, known as the "Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri," the Iowas, the Ottoes and Missourias, the Omahas, the Poncas, and the Pawnees. The last mentioned tribe are back some distance from the frontier, on the Platte river, directly on the route to Oregon, and have been the most troublesome Indians to the emigrants to that territory. By the treaty of 1833 they ceded all their lands south of that river, and obligated themselves to remove north of it; but as they are constantly liable to attacks from the Sioux in that direction, those south have never removed. As, however, there will soon be a military force in that region, which can afford them protection from the Sioux, they may properly be compelled at an early day to remove and to keep within their own country; and thus be out of the way of our emigrants. They are so obnoxious to the tribes south that they could not, for the present at least, be colonized with them. They must eventually be driven west or exterminated by the Sioux, who have a strong antipathy to them, unless a better understanding can be effected between them and the southern tribes, which will admit of their being moved down among or in the rear of them. No reasonable amount of military force could prevent their being killed off in detail by the Sioux, if they remain long in their present country. The other tribes mentioned can gradually be removed down to the southern colony, as the convenience of our emigrants and the pressure of our white population may require; which may be the case at no distant day, as the greater portion of the lands they occupy are eligibly located on and near the Missouri river, and from that circumstance, and their superior quality, said to be very desirable. Indeed, it would be a measure of great humanity to purchase out and remove the Omahas and the Ottoes and Missourias at an early period, particularly the former, who are a very interesting people, being mild and tractable in disposition, and much attached to the whites. Were they in a better position, they might, with proper measures, be easily civilized, and be made the instruments of imparting civilization to others. Their proper position would be with the Osages or Kanzas, as they speak nearly if not quite the same language, and are probably of the same primary stock. They are the original owners of the soil, and receive no annuities from the United States; and as they are circumscribed in their hunting expeditions by the Sioux and Pawnees, they are liable at times to destitution and great suffering. The Sioux also not unfrequently attack and murder them in their own country, so that their situation is truly an unfortunate one. Their

country is estimated to contain from five to six millions of acres of valuable land, which could be obtained at this time at a very moderate price; and so tractable is their character, there would be no difficulty in making ample provision out of the purchase money for their civilization and improvement. Reasons of a similar kind exist for buying out and removing at an early period, the Ottoes and Missourias, whose affinities of character and language are said to be with the Ioways. The lands claimed by them are estimated to embrace from two to three millions of acres. These two measures consummated, the Pawnees all removed north of the Platte, and the Sioux of the Missouri restrained from coming south of that river, there would be a wide and safe passage for our Oregon emigrants; and for such of those to California as may prefer to take that route, which I am informed will probably be the case with many.

Eventually, when the Sioux shall have left the Mississippi region, and the Pawnees been displaced in one or other of the ways mentioned, and when the other intervening tribes between the northern and southern colony, shall have been removed to within the latter, an ample outlet of about six geographical degrees will be opened for our population that may incline to pass or expand in that direction; and thus prevent our colonized tribes from being injuriously pressed upon, if not swept away; while to the south of the southern colony there will also be a sufficient outlet for such portion of our population as may take that direction.

In the able and interesting report of that excellent and efficient officer, the superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, he refers to the necessity of providing lands suitable for agricultural purposes, for such of the prairie tribes as have no lands of their own of that character; in order that they may be saved from the perils which threaten them when the resources of the chase, on which they now almost wholly rely, shall have been cut off by the extermination of the buffalo—a circumstance that must ere long occur; and he recommends that lands be obtained from the Omahas and Poncas for that purpose. This would be contrary to the policy I have recommended, and which I think is the correct one, of procuring and keeping open these lands for the egress and expansion of our own population; but aside from this, though pretending to no very accurate knowledge upon the subject, I am induced to believe, from such information as I have been able to obtain, that none of the tribes to which he refers will, or could be induced to incline eastward to the Missouri river; but that they will gradually follow the buffalo towards the Rocky mountains, and southward towards New Mexico, in which direction they may ultimately find a resting place. A considerable portion of the Sioux, and possibly the Pawnees, will probably take the same direction. Indeed, I am informed that there are now over two thousand Sioux living in the region of the head waters of the Platte river, where a few years ago there were none to be found. Such of that tribe as do not migrate in that direction, will, as heretofore stated, probably take their course up the Missouri river, in which direction a suitable spot could no doubt

be found for colonizing them and the other tribes in that quarter, should that ever become practicable. But should these views prove incorrect, suitable locations could no doubt be found among or in the rear of our colonized tribes, for such of those referred to by the superintendent, as might be compelled to come back to our western border to settle.

In order that the exterior organization of this Department may be more generally known and understood, I propose to give a brief outline of it, in connexion with the assignment and distribution of the various tribes over which we exercise any immediate supervision or control, among the different superintendencies, agencies, and sub-agencies. There is but one full superintendent of Indian affairs, but there are two acting superintendents of districts, who are at the same time local agents: the latter is a very imperfect and objectionable arrangement. The position and duties of a superintendent are highly important and responsible, and in many ways entirely incompatible with the local duties of agent. Officers of this grade are indispensable to the Department in the distant administration of its affairs, and in the local application of its policy and measures, according to the varied and varying situation, circumstances, and disposition of the different tribes. By constant and active supervision they can materially aid in preventing or correcting abuses or errors; and however well disposed may be the agents and sub-agents, the presence of the superintendent occasionally, to advise and direct, is of great convenience and assistance. For these and other reasons that might be given, and which on a former occasion I stated at length, superintendents should be free from all local duties as agent for a tribe.

The agent for the Choctaws, who resides in the Choctaw country, is the acting superintendent for what is called in the organization act of June 30th, 1834, the "Western Territory"—a designation much more appropriate then than now. This superintendency, which might more properly be denominated the Southwestern Superintendency, embraces the following tribes, viz: The Chickasaws, the Choctaws, the Seminoles, the Creeks, the Cherokees, the Senecas and Shawnees, the Senecas, the Quapaws, and the Osages. The last mentioned tribe, the three immediately preceding, together, and the Seminoles, are respectively in charge of sub-agents, whose salaries are seven hundred and fifty dollars per annum, while the other tribes mentioned are in charge of agents whose salaries are fifteen hundred dollars.

The St. Louis or Northwestern Superintendency, the office of which is located at St. Louis, includes the following tribes, viz:

First. Those on and between the upper Arkansas and Platte rivers, consisting particularly of the Cheyennes, the Arapahoes, and the Sioux that have migrated to the upper Platte, and also such of the wandering tribes as from time to time may be within the country; all of which are in charge of and under the supervision of one agent. Second. The Kanzas, the Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi, Ottawas, Chippewas, the Peorias and Kaskaskias, the Weas and

Piankeshaws, and the Miamies, in charge of one agent. Third. The Shawnees, the Pottawatomies, the Delawares, Stockbridges, Munsees, Christian Indians, and the Kickapoos, in charge of one agent. Fourth. The Wyandots, in charge of a sub-agent. Fifth. The Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri, and Ioways, in charge of a sub-agent. Sixth. The Ottoes and Missourias, the Pawnees, and the Omahas, in charge of an agent. Seventh. The Poncas, the Sioux of the Missouri, the Arickarees, the Minatarees, the Mandans, Cheyennes, the Crows, the Assinaboins, and the Black Feet, in charge of one agent. Eighth. The Sioux of the Mississippi, in charge of a sub-agent. Ninth. The Winnebagoes and the Chippewas of the upper Mississippi, in charge of one agent.

The third superintendency, which is located at Detroit, embraces the Indians within the limits of the State of Michigan, viz: the united tribes of Ottawas and Chippewas, the Chippewas of Saginaw, the Chippewas of Swan creek and Black river, the Pottawatomies of the Huron, and a portion of the Chippewas of Lake Superior; all of which are in charge of an agent, (who is the acting superintendent,) except the last mentioned Indians, and that portion of the Chippewas, of the united bands of Ottawas and Chippewas, living on or near Lake Superior, in the vicinity of the Sault Ste. Marie; which are in charge of a sub-agent.

The following Indians are not within any superintendency, viz: the Chippewas of Lake Superior, which are in charge of a sub-agent; the Menomonies, the Stockbridges, and the Oneidas, in charge of a sub-agent; the several bands of Senecas, and other Indians in the western part of New York, in charge of a sub-agent; and the Indians of Texas, which, so far as the care or supervision of this bureau is concerned, are in charge of a special agent.

Each agency and sub-agency has an interpreter, whose salary is $300; and where there are different tribes within the same agency or sub-agency, speaking different languages, an interpreter is allowed for each if necessary. Besides the interpreters, there are employed at most of the agencies, under treaty stipulations to that effect, mechanics of various kinds, for the benefit of the Indians; such as blacksmiths, gunsmiths, carpenters, &c.; and, in some cases, farmers and laborers are employed to farm for and instruct them in the art of agriculture.

From the foregoing outline of the distribution and assignment of the different tribes, it will be seen that in some instances a number are within the same agency, and in charge of the same agent. Though some of these tribes are comparatively large, and, in their general disposition and habits, are as peculiar and as different from each other as are almost any of our colonized tribes, they yet live side by side, or near to each other, in peace and harmony; and they are as easily managed and controlled, and their affairs as efficiently conducted, as if they were all one and the same tribe. With good and efficient agents, the same system might be pursued with other tribes, which would admit of the discontinuance of a number of agents and sub-agents, and thus lead to a con-

siderable reduction in the amount now paid for salaries, contingent expenses of agencies, &c. The following is an extract from a report which I had the honor to make upon this subject on the 30th December, 1846, and which will be found in Document No. 70, House of Representatives, 2d session 29th Congress.

"The concentration of the Indians west of the Mississippi, since the act of 1834, (the act organizing the Indian department,) has almost entirely done away with the necessity which then existed, of having separate agents or sub-agents for each separate and distinct tribe or band. When, therefore, two or more tribes or bands are adjacent, between which there is a good understanding, it is believed that their affairs could be as well and satisfactorily, and certainly much more economically, managed by one intelligent and efficient agent, as if there were one agent or sub-agent for each. By this arrangement, there would be not only the difference in the amount of compensation saved, but also the difference in the expense between keeping up the house, office, &c. of one agent, and those of a greater number."

In another part of that report, it was shown that even with the creation of two additional independent superintendencies, there might, by this plan, combined with a re-adjustment of the rates of compensation, be saved out of the $29,250 per annum then paid for salaries of superintendents, agents, and sub-agents, the sum of $11,650; "while the annual saving, in consequence of the reduction in the number of the establishments of the agents and sub-agents, would probably not be very far less." This *projét* required the action of Congress to carry it into effect, and bills, embodying its essential features have twice passed one of the branches of that body.

The general condition and circumstances of the tribes embraced in the outline given, will be found described in the accompanying reports and statements; but the census and statistics now being taken and collected, in conformity with the fifth section of the act of March 3, 1847, will, in addition to their numbers, according to families, age, and sex, exhibit their actual condition, means, and resources, with a degree of minuteness and accuracy never before attained. This information will be not only of much intrinsic interest, but, properly used, of great practical value in the administration of the affairs of this Department, with reference to the melioration and improvement of the condition and circumstances of the several tribes immediately under our care. That already received has, in a striking manner, developed some of the evils existing in our Indian system, the extent of which could otherwise only be guessed at. The pernicious effects upon the welfare and prosperity of a tribe, of large money annuities, have been painfully demonstrated; so that in all future negotiations for Indian lands, the government will be recreant to its trust, and to all the dictates of humanity, if it do not strenuously endeavor to have as large amounts as possible of the purchase money set apart for such purposes as will have any tendency to elevate and improve the

condition of the tribes with which such negotiations are held—whether in a physical, intellectual, or moral point of view. Nor does its duty in this particular end here: every exertion should also be made to induce those tribes which, are now entitled to receive large sums annually, to consent to the application of reasonable portions to purposes of that character. Efforts of this kind have already been made with several tribes, and with an encouraging degree of success. The less an Indian's expectations and resources from the chase, and from the government in the shape of money annuities, the more readily can he be induced to give up his idle, dissolute, and savage habits, and to resort to labor for a maintenance; and thus commence the transition from a state of barbarism and moral depression, to one of civilization and moral elevation.

In consequence of the difficulty in making the Indians comprehend the object of the inquiries, and their superstitious disinclination to furnish information respecting themselves or their affairs, unexpected delays have in some instances occurred in obtaining the particulars desired. The opposition to the measure has not been confined to the less improved tribes, with which it was supposed it would meet with less favor; some of those more advanced in civilization and intelligence seem obstinately to have taken up the impression, that the information is desired for some sinister and improper object, having reference to a change in their present position, or an interference in their domestic concerns. In consequence of this and other circumstances, complete returns have not yet been received, and none for several of the most important tribes. It is hoped, however, that the unfounded and unreasonable objections that have been made will soon be overcome; when it will be in the power of the Department to lay before Congress, in a condensed and classified form, a mass of information more interesting, and of more practical value, than any ever heretofore collected in relation to our Indian tribes.

The act above referred to requires not only a census and statistics of the Indian tribes, but also the collection of such materials as will tend to illustrate their history, present condition, and future prospects. This is a duty which we owe to ourselves, to posterity, to the peculiar and interesting people we have in a great measure displaced, and to the world. It is, however, a work of time; requiring great care and much effort and labor. The field of inquiry is a very wide one, and the reliable materials that have been published to the world, scanty and incomplete. Besides the vague and imperfect traditions of the Indians themselves, which have to be obtained, compared and analyzed, there is much valuable information to be had from persons yet living, who have spent the greater portion of a long life among different tribes, and made themselves well acquainted with many interesting points in their history, as well as with their habits, manners, customs, observances, &c. Efforts have been made to obtain all such information, as well as to enlist the co-operation of such individuals throughout the

country, as, from a love of philosophical inquiry and investigation, have turned their attention to this highly interesting subject. Much curious and valuable material has already been collected; and when the sources of inquiry shall have been exhausted, the Department will be in possession of a large amount of information, valuable in itself, and of singular interest to all who have been, or hereafter may be, led to study the history or to reflect upon the destiny of the aborigines of this continent.

Since my last annual report, sixty-four Creeks and fifty-two Chickasaws have removed and joined their brethren west of the Mississippi river; and such of those tribes as are yet east, will doubtless soon follow. Sixty-one Miamies have also removed from Indiana, and joined that portion of the tribe which emigrated last year.

The emigration of the Choctaws remaining east of the Mississippi has been very limited; principally in consequence of their being averse to removal during the summer months. Only one hundred and eighteen have been removed; but the business of emigrating them having been thrown open to all persons of a proper character disposed to engage in it, arrangements have been concerted for a large emigration this fall and winter; which, from the latest intelligence received, it is hoped will include nearly, if not quite all, now east of the Mississippi. There is thus a prospect of successfully terminating this tedious and vexatious undertaking, in which a large amount of money has already been expended, and which the government voluntarily assumed at the urgent request of the States in which the Indians remained, especially of Mississippi, where the most of them were, and of which, by her laws they were citizens so long as they chose to continue there. All other means and exertions, compatible with the rights and interests of the Indians, and with the duty and obligations of the government towards them, having been tried without any commensurate or satisfactory degree of success, the present effort should, in my judgment, be regarded as the final one; and if it fail, the government should be considered as absolved from all further obligation in the matter. Every proper inducement will have been held out to influence them to remove; the government cannot compel them to go; and if they shall still persist in remaining, as they have been encouraged to do by a portion of the whites residing in those States, they should not be further harrassed, but be left to the quiet enjoyment of their rights and privileges as citizens. A copy of the instructions under which the present arrangements are in progress, are hereto appended, marked A, B, C, D.

Within the past year, the Pottawatomies, who have heretofore been separated, (the larger portion being in Iowa, and the others on the Osage river,) have completed their removal to their new country on the Kanzas river, between the Delawares and Shawnees, where they are now comfortably settled. Thus happily re-united, not only among themselves, but in means and interests, and free from those adverse influences arising out of a contact with a white population, to which those in Iowa were subjected, it is confident-

ly expected, that under the measures and influences which may now be favorably brought to bear upon them for the purpose, they will enter upon a course of improvement, which, in a few years, will result in at least their comparative civilization. Much credit is due to them, not only for their prompt self removal, but for the peaceable and orderly manner in which it was conducted. It was a new feature in our Indian system, to see an entire tribe of Indians quietly organize, and leave their old homes, and peacefully, and without disorder of any kind, remove themselves to a new country, nearly two hundred miles distant from most of them, in conformity with a stipulation to that effect in a treaty which they had made with the government; and bearing their own expenses out of funds set apart for that purpose. The Kanzas Indians deserve equal credit, having, since my last annual report, in the same commendable manner, removed themselves from their old country on the Kanzas river, to their new, and to them, better location, on the head waters of the Neosho; where they are now well settled, and are already asking for schools and other means of improving their condition and circumstances. The experiment in the case of the Winnebagoes has also been successful; although their emigration from Iowa to their new country on the upper Mississippi was attended with some delay and difficulty; caused, however, by the unauthorized interference of interested white persons, and of a portion of the Sioux that were desirous to have them stop and remain in their country. Under the operation of improper influences, thus brought to bear upon them, a portion of the tribe, after moving some distance on the route, scattered in various directions; the most of them going over to the Missouri river, and to the Menomonie country, near Green Bay, in Wisconsin. The others safely reached their new country, which is admirably suited to them; much of it being well adapted to agricultural purposes, and to a considerable extent interspersed with lakes and streams, abounding with fish and wild rice. Since their arrival, most of those that dispersed have joined them, which, without doubt, the rest will soon do in order to share in the large annuities due to the tribe, in money, goods and provisions.

The removal of this tribe, and of the Pottawatomies, has entirely freed Iowa of her Indian population, which occupied some of the best and most desirable lands in the State, that will now be rapidly settled by our enterprising and industrious citizens. Indeed, so sweeping is the tide of emigration in that quarter, that it is already beginning to break over the northern boundary of the State, towards the rich and fertile lands on and south of the Minesota, or St. Peters river; which are now owned by the Sioux Indians, and which it is important to acquire at as early a period as possible. There is, probably, no where within our limits a more desirable section of country than this—whether for soil or climate; and if opened to our hardy and enterprising pioneers, it would soon become densely settled with a prosperous and thriving white population. To the Sioux it is of no use whatever, as the game has almost all been destroyed; and from their present character and habits,

which have already been described, they cannot be induced to abandon the chase and their warlike propensities, and to any profitable extent, resort to agriculture, or any other species of labor. Being very mischievous and daring in disposition, it is necessary to keep a considerable space between them and our expanding population, in order to prevent difficulties which might lead to hostilities and bloodshed. For these, and other reasons that might be mentioned, sound policy would seem to dictate that an effort should be made, at an early day, to purchase this country of the Sioux, to defray the expenses of which an appropriation of about five thousand dollars will probably be necessary.

Wisconsin, like Iowa, may also soon be relieved from the Indian population within her limits. The Brothertowns were made citizens by an act of March 3rd, 1839; and the Stockbridges by one of March 3rd, 1843, which, however, was modified by the act of August 6th, 1846, providing for the return of such as so desired to their original position as Indians, and for a division of the lands of the band between the latter and those who prefer remaining citizens. The difficulties which prevented the execution of the latter act, were fully stated in my report of last year, and have not since been removed; nor do they seem likely to be. Under these circumstances, and as the position of these people is a very unhappy one, in consequence of the dissensions between the two parties into which they are divided, propositions have been made to them, for such as do not wish to avail themselves of the privilege of citizenship, to surrender to the government, on just and equitable terms, their interest in the lands, and to join their brethren in the west, who are living there prosperous and happy. These fair and liberal propositions, it is hoped, will be accepted. The small band of Oneidas, who were originally from New York, though never formally made citizens, may, from their position and circumstances, their civilization and intelligence, be substantially so regarded. A portion of the Chippewas of Lake Superior and the Mississippi, and the Menomonies, may therefore not improperly be considered as the only Indian population now in Wisconsin. The Chippewas, as heretofore stated, are remaining by sufferance on lands which have been ceded to the United States, and from which, looking only to their own benefit, they should soon be required to remove. The Menomonies, like all Indians unprepared for such a position, have for some years been suffering from those untoward circumstances necessarily arising out of a close contact with a rapidly increasing white population; to which, in turn, the vicinage of the Indians has also been a great disadvantage. For their own interest and welfare, as well as for the prosperity of that part of Wisconsin, it has for some time been an object of much importance to induce them to cede their lands, and to remove where they could reap the full benefit of the policy of the government for the civilization and improvement of our Indian tribes. This important object, which unfavorable circumstances and influences have heretofore prevented being effected, has at length been attained; a treaty having recently been negotiated with them by myself, in their country,

under instructions of the 14th of September last, by which they cede all their lands in Wisconsin, containing about 4,000,000 of acres, and agree to remove to those set apart for them on the Upper Mississippi, which are in all respects well suited to them; where, with proper care and attention, they must thrive and prosper; and where they and their neighbors and former associates and friends, the Winnebagoes, may be made the instruments of preventing, in a great measure, the sanguinary hostilities, arising out of the bitter and hereditary feuds existing between the Chippewas and Sioux, that so frequently occur between those two tribes. This treaty may be regarded as having substantially completed the extinction of the Indian title to all lands east of the Mississippi river, south of Lake Superior, subject to the jurisdiction and control of the general government.

Since the 4th of March, 1845, treaties have been negotiated with the following tribes, viz: the Comanche and other wild tribes of Texas, the Cherokees, the Chippewas of Lake Superior and the Mississippi, the Pillager band of Chippewas, the Kansas, the Pottawatomies, the Winnebagoes, and the Menomonies. The first was a treaty of peace and friendship, for the purpose of giving some definiteness to our relations and intercourse with the various tribes within the boundaries of Texas; and the object of the second was to heal the bitter internal dissensions by which the Cherokees had so long been afflicted, and to provide for the settlement of all matters at issue between them and the United States. By the remaining treaties about eighteen and a half millions of acres of land were surrendered to the government, of which about two millions one hundred thousand acres have been assigned to other tribes as permanent homes; about two millions nine hundred thousand acres are held in reserve for a similar purpose; and the remainder, about thirteen and a half millions of acres, in the States of Wisconsin and Iowa, will now come into market and soon be occupied by a white population. This large extent of territory was obtained at a cost of about $1,842,000, of which $150,000 was the value of other lands assigned the Indians, and the balance was a consideration in money, a liberal portion of which was set apart for beneficial objects, and the remainder is to be paid in a series of years as annuities.

These treaties were all made without granting a single reservation, without assuming a dollar of any Indian indebtedness, and where removal was necessary, they provided for its being accomplished by the Indians themselves, which experience has shown can be done with less trouble and expense than by any of the modes heretofore adopted by the government. The Department has thus rid itself in these cases of three fertile sources of perplexity and embarassing controversy, if not of corruption and fraud.

There has also been submitted to this office, a treaty concluded on the 8th of August last with the Pawnee Indians by the military authorities, for the acquisition of Grand Island in the Platte river, and a strip of country on the north side of that river some sixty miles in length, which I understand is intended for military purposes,

and where one of the line of posts on the route to Oregon is to be established. In this treaty the Pawnees pledge themselves to fidelity and friendship towards the United. States, that they will not molest or injure the persons or property of our citizens, nor make war upon other Indians; and that, in all cases of difficulty, they will abide by the arbitration and directions of the President.

The last clause of the first section of the act making appropriations for the service of the Indian department, approved 29th July last, (pamphlet laws, page 99,) appropriated five thousand dollars "for the removal of the Catawba tribe of Indians, now in the limits of North Carolina, to the Indian country west of the Mississippi, with the consent of said tribe," no part of which sum is to be expended, however, "until the President shall first obtain a home for them among some of the tribes west of the Mississippi river, with their consent, and without any charge upon the government." The Department was without any information whatever in relation to these Indians, but supposing from their locality and former probable association to some extent with the Cherokees, that they might prefer a home among them, a letter was addressed, soon after the passage of the act, to the authorities of that tribe, to ascertain whether they would receive the Catawbas on the terms prescribed. Subsequently, information was obtained that they desired to join the Chickasaws, who had once invited them to do so; and a letter, similar to that to the Cherokees, was addressed to that tribe through the government agent. No answer to either communication has yet been received, though sufficient time has not elapsed for one from the Chickasaws. Every further necessary effort will promptly be made to carry out the law according to its tenor.

The fourth section of the same act required the number and names of the Cherokees in North Carolina, at the date of the treaty of New Echota, May 23, 1836, who have not removed west of the Mississippi, nor received the commutation for removal and subsistence allowed by that treaty, to be ascertained and reported to the Secretary of the Treasury, with reference to the amount of that commutation being set apart for their benefit, and interest thereon at six per cent. from the above date being paid over to them. The Department was embarrassed by the circumstance of no appropriation having been made to defray the expenses of this measure, in consequence of which it had no means of compensating any person to execute the duty. One of the gentlemen of this office, possessed of considerable information respecting the Indians in question, having however volunteered to perform the service, and on his own individual account to make arrangements for the amount of his expenses, until an appropriation therefor could be obtained of Congress, the Department, being desirous for the prompt fulfilment of the law, consented to the arrangement. He has but recently returned, after having completed the business, and the required report will in a short time be made to the Secretary of the Treasury, to enable him to fulfil the other provisions of the act. An item has been inserted in the estimates that have been submitted, for an appropriation of four hundred dollars, to reimburse

the expenses necessarily incurred by the person referred to in the execution of the law.

As required by the sixth section of the act in question, a commissioner was duly appointed to issue certificates for the amounts allowed on the claims against the Pottawatomie Indians, examined and adjudicated by General William B. Mitchell, in 1840. He was furnished with the necessary instructions and documents to aid and guide him in the execution of the duty, upon which he is presumed to be now engaged.

Pursuant to the determination announced in the last annual report, the annuities of most of the tribes have this year been paid semi-annually; and generally, it is believed, much to their interest and advantage. The Department has seen no reason to change its views on this subject. From various causes, inconsistent with and opposed to the true interests and welfare of the Indians, opposition to the measure was expected, but has not been realized to the extent anticipated; and the policy should be continued with most if not all the tribes, whose annuities are sufficiently large to admit of a division of them being made with advantage.

The per capita mode of paying annuities has been attended with the happiest effects. It prevents speculation and extortion being practised upon the Indians, through the means of national credits, the benefits of which—if so pernicious a system can be attended with benefits—enure principally to the chiefs and their friends and favorites, to the injustice and wrong of the mass of the common Indians, while it gives to every one a knowledge of his just rights, and secures them to him. In the whole course of our Indian policy there has never been a measure productive of better moral effects. The Indians generally are much gratified with the change and grateful to the government for it; and it has secured their confidence and respect to a greater extent, probably, than was ever before possessed. Such being the case, it will be the duty of the government rigidly to adhere to the policy.

Time sufficient has not yet elapsed to test the expectations entertained as to the good results of the new regulations on the subject of granting licenses to trade in the Indian country, a copy of which accompanied my annual report of last year. They have however led to a more rigid and necessary supervision of the whole system, which must result in the correction of many of the abuses which had crept into it. The Department takes to itself but little credit for issuing them, for they are only what a proper compliance with the law and the rights and interests of the Indians required.

One of the greatest evils connected with the Indian trade heretofore, was the reckless system of national credits which prevailed among the tribes receiving annuities from the government, and of which those annuities were the basis. When payable they were generally absorbed by the debts due to the traders, and not unfrequently large balances were left, or alleged to be left, unpaid. There was generally little or nothing remaining for distribution among the individuals of the tribe, to aid them in supplying themselves with what was requisite for their maintenance and comfort

during the winter; or where balances were left, under the old system of paying the annuities into the hands of the chiefs, they and their friends participated most largely if not exclusively in them, as they had done in the credits, which were generally obtained on the authority of the chiefs. The mass of the Indians were thus wronged and robbed of their just rights, while no part of the very large annuities received by many of the tribes, could be obtained for any purposes of general utility and benefit. This corrupt and ruinous system has been broken up by the adoption of the *per capita* mode of payment, and the inflexible determination of the Department to recognize no further indebtedness on the part of the Indians; regarding all matters of account between them and white men as individual and private transactions, with which the government would have nothing to do.

When the instructions of August 30th, 1847, (a copy of which accompanied my report of last year,) were prepared, directing the annuities to be distributed and paid per capita, in conformity with the act of March 3rd, 1847, it was believed that there were few if any debts which could legitimately and properly be regarded as of a national character; the liabilities being incurred by individuals for their own personal benefit or that of their families. But as representations had been made that debts of that description did exist, which the new mode of payment would prevent being liquidated by the chiefs out of the annuities, and thus wrong and injustice be done to those to whom they were owing, it was provided in the instructions that all such claims might be transmitted to the Department, in order that the President might be able to ascertain what should justly be considered as being of a national character, and to decide what course should be pursued in regard to them. There have accordingly been submitted thirty three claims against different tribes, ammounting, in the aggregate, to $162,908 01, nearly the whole of which, viz: $157,684 22, is against the Pottawatomies, the Miamies, and the Sacs and Foxes—tribes receiving annuities more than sufficient for their actual wants, and who, for years, on receiving them, have paid large amounts for debts, over and above the enormous sum of $721,066 34, which, during the last six years, has been specially set apart and appropriated, with the consent of the government, for liabilities of that character urged against those three tribes. It certainly seems incredible how, in any just and proper system of trade, such large balances could have accumulated against them beyond the immense sums that have been paid by and for them.

Annexed (marked E) is a schedule of the claims that have been presented, showing the result of a preliminary examination of them in this office; from which it will be perceived that some of them have heretofore been fully considered and rejected both by the Department and the President, and are not therefore entitled to a reconsideration; that others are for alleged depredations committed by the Indians, which cannot be included with ordinary debt claims, because a specific course is prescribed in regard to them by the 17th section of the act of June 30th, 1834, regulating trade and intercourse

with the Indians, while in none is there satisfactory evidence that the articles charged for were actually sold or furnished, or that the charges, which in many cases seem extravagant, are reasonable and just. It will further be seen that the charges are generally against individual Indians, and would therefore seem to be individual and not national liabilities; and that there is great diversity in the amounts, so that great inequality and injustice would result from their being paid out of the common funds. As the claims now stand, it is impossible to make any safe decision in regard to them, short of rejecting the whole; and under the circumstances, the best, and probably only practicable mode of making any satisfactory and final disposition of them, would be for Congress to authorize the appointment of a commissioner to investigate them on the spot, with power to take testimony and examine witnesses, in order to ascertain satisfactorily how far they should justly be regarded as national or individual liabilities whether the charges are just and reasonable, and all other facts and circumstances which should be taken into consideration in making a final decision upon them.

The law of March 3rd, 1847, imposing additional penalties and restrictions upon the crime of introducing spirituous liquors into the Indian country, and trafficking in them with the Indians, has been attended with the most salutary and beneficial results; though this great evil still continues to exist to a frightful extent. Some of the semi-civilized tribes, perceiving its ruinous effects, and appreciating the anxiety of the government to put a stop to it, have themselves, in the most commendable spirit, passed severe laws upon the subject; but it can never effectually be checked until the States adjoining the Indian country come forward and co-operate in the general effort against this unholy and iniquitous traffic, by passing stringent laws, restraining the evil disposed among their citizens on the frontier from engaging in it with the Indians. If this were done, and authority were given to the Department to punish the Indians themselves, in the manner recommended in the report of the superintendent at St. Louis, for their participation in it, this moral pestilence would soon be driven from the confines of the Indian country, which would be followed by the dawn of a brighter day upon the condition and destiny of our colonized Indians.

The general deportment of the more civilized tribes during the year has been most commendable; and the influence of their good example upon their less advanced and less fortunate brethren cannot but be salutary and beneficial. Indeed, they appear of late to have considerably improved in their general temper and disposition, especially those with whom we have treaty stipulations, and who receive annuities from the United States, which they have been made to understand are liable for any outrages or injuries they commit, whether upon our own citizens or upon each other. Occurrences of this kind have been less frequent during the past year than heretofore. But two of any consequence are known to have taken place—one, an attack by the Sioux on a steamboat, on the upper Missouri river, engaged in a trading expedition, in which a

white man, attached to the boat, was killed; and the other, an attack by the Iowas upon a party of Pawnees, in which some 12 of the latter were slain and scalped. The Indians alleged that they were instigated to the first by white persons in their country, supposed to be rivals in trade with those whose goods were on board the boat. A further report in relation to the causes which led to it, is soon expected, and, when received, the Department will be better advised as to the measures which should be adopted to punish the really guilty parties, and to prevent such outrages in future. The attack of the Iowas upon the Pawnees was unprovoked and wanton; and their annuities were directed to be withheld until they had made the most satisfactory reparation of which the case admitted. They accordingly entered into an agreement with the Pawnees to pay them eight hundred dollars out of their present year's annuity, which was satisfactory, and both parties bound themselves hereafter to submit all cases of dispute or difficulty between them to the President, and to abide by his decision.

The making of the annuities of a tribe liable for such acts of misconduct, has no doubt a restraining effect; but of itself, is not sufficient among the less civilized tribes. Their natural propensities are warlike, and success in war is the principal and most ready mode of obtaining distinction and power; and hence it is difficult, and often impossible, for the chiefs and the well disposed of a tribe to restrain the restless and ambitious from hostile aggressions upon Indians of other tribes. This can be done only by the prompt and rigorous interposition of the government; and it is strongly recommended by those whose judgment and experience are worthy of entire reliance, that power should be given to the Department in all such cases to arrest the guilty parties, and to inflict some proper punishment upon them, according to the nature and extent of the offence. Until those immediately concerned in such outrages, are made severely to feel that they are liable to be attended with consequences of a humiliating and painful character, they cannot be effectually checked. Where chiefs are implicated, they should be broke and degraded; and all concerned should be punished with confinement and hard labor at some of the military posts. Such a course of policy, rigidly pursued, would soon put an end to tribal as well as intestine wars.

Though most of the expenditures in this branch of the public service are in their objects and amounts specifically defined and fixed by law or treaty stipulations, so that there is but little scope for the exercise of executive discretion, the estimates recently submitted of the appropriations required for the next fiscal year, exhibit a reduction in amount compared with those of last year; whilst both are considerably less than those for the four preceding years, which averaged $1,218,591.

The amount of those of last year was.............	$892,134 68
Those presented this year amount to.............	857,473 45
Difference..................................	$34,661 23

This result has been attained only by the most rigid supervision, for some time past, of the expenditures for such objects as are in any way subject to the discretion or control of the Department; and by cutting off all those which could possibly be dispensed with, without manifest injury to the service. Appended (marked F.) is a copy of a circular issued a short time since, imposing additional responsibilities and restrictions in reference to expenses of a contingent nature, which it is expected will lead to still further economy in the disbursements of that character.

The policy announced in my report for 1846, of surrendering to the Treasury all balances of two years' standing, not needed for the current expenditures, in order that they may be carried to the surplus fund and the appropriations cancelled, continues to be rigidly adhered to. This not only produces a greater degree of conformity between the amounts of the estimates and expenditures, but as the Department is compelled, when means are necessary for the objects for which the balances carried to the surplus fund were intended, to apply to Congress for new appropriations, it keeps that body better advised of the expenditures of the Department, and enables it to exercise a greater degree of supervision over them. The result of this policy, in reference to the balances dispensed with, has been as follows:—

Amount designated to go to the surplus fund in			1846,	$1,096,564 81
Do	do	do	1847,	74,588 52
Do	do	do	1848,	157,374 37
				1,328,527 70

This system necessarily increases the yearly estimates to the extent that the old balances could be used; but this is far better than that those balances should be retained, and the estimates lessened accordingly, and a delusive view be thus presented to Congress of the probable amount of expenditures in the next succeeding year.

The accumulation of large amounts in the hands of disbursing agents has always been considered one of the most fruitful sources of malfeasance in the public service; leading, as it frequently does, to speculations with the public funds, and eventually to defalcations. The special attention of this office continues to be directed to this subject. As stated last year, the large sum of $284,849 91, which had accumulated in the hands of the various agents, was withdrawn therefrom and restored to the Treasury; and the remittances are now so arranged and regulated, that they never have in their possession any thing beyond what is almost immediately required for expenditure.

Tables G and H are appended to show the amounts invested in stocks of various States and of the United States, for the benefit of several of the tribes, and the annual income therefrom; and also the amounts not invested but held in trust, and interest thereon annually paid, by the government.

In my report of last year, I noticed the peculiar situation of

certain Indian reservations in the State of Illinois, which had been set apart by treaty for the use and benefit of individual Indians, without vesting in them the fee, and which they could not therefore sell, as in other cases; but the act of the 9th of March last authorised them to do so, with the approval of the President. Regulations prescribing the conditions of such approval were adopted and widely circulated; but, so far, only four cases have been perfected in accordance therewith and approved. A large number of claims, by purchase, to other reservations, under various treaties, have been examined during the past year, of which upwards of fifty, having been perfected according to the regulations of the Department, have been confirmed.

Of reservations under treaties prior to 1830, about sixty remain untransferred, though about half of them are claimed by purchases which have not been confirmed, because the prerequisites thereto have not been complied with. By subsequent treaties, (principally those with the Choctaws, Creeks, and Chickasaws, of 1830, 1832, and 1834,) upwards of nine thousand reservations were set apart for individual Indians; the greater portion of which have been sold by the reservees, and the sales approved. The investigation and settlement of these cases has imposed upon this office a vast amount of labor and difficulty, there being many cases of fraud, and numerous contests between opposing claimants, which rendered necessary the greatest care and caution. Those remaining unsettled are generally now in such a situation that they may soon be disposed of; and as the evil and corrupt policy of granting reservations in Indian treaties has been discontinued, this tedious and embarrassing class of business may be entirely closed up at an early day, and the time and attention required by it be profitably devoted to the other important and increasing duties of the office.

Under the acts of August 3rd, 1842, and August 6th, 1846, there have been adjudicated three thousand eight hundred and thirty-two claims, including those of children, of that class of the cases arising under the 14th article of the Choctaw treaty of 1830, for which reservations could not be assigned in accordance with the specific provisions of that treaty, and for which those laws authorized the granting of scrip to the claimants; one half only of which was to be issued to them—the other half being required to be funded by the act of March 3rd, 1845, and on which interest, at five per cent., is payable to the parties, commencing on their arrival in the country of their brethren west of the Mississippi river. Of the half deliverable to the claimants, there has been issued a portion equal to 330,840 acres of land. The remainder is in the hands of the agent of the Choctaws west of the Mississippi, ready to be issued to the Indian claimants as soon as they shall have removed there, it being withheld till then, in accordance with the decision of the President of September 25th, 1847. (See appendix, B.) The whole amount of the scrip awarded on this class of claims is equal to one million four hundred thousand four hundred and eighty acres of land; one half of which only, however, will be absorbed by the unfunded portion of the scrip.

An increasing interest continues to be everywhere manifested in the cause of education. Many of the tribes which have heretofore refused to permit the introduction of schools into their country, are now coming forward and asking for their establishment; and some of them are even offering to appropriate a portion of their own means to the promotion of this great object. This gratifying change in their sentiments and views, has been brought about, in a great measure, by the system which has been pursued for some time, of imparting a knowledge of agriculture and the mechanic arts with that of letters, and the efficient co-operation of the different missionary societies in the efforts of the Department.

The number of schools in the Indian country has increased more rapidly during the past than in any preceding year, whilst the attendance and deportment of the scholars have been far more constant and exemplary than before. It appears from the reports made to this office, that there are now in successful operation among the different tribes sixteen manual labor institutions, at which are maintained and educated eight hundred and nine scholars; of which five hundred and seventy-seven are males, and two hundred and thirty-two females; and eighty-seven boarding and other schools, with two thousand eight hundred and seventy-three scholars—two thousand and seventy-three males, and eight hundred females. These schools are represented to be supplied with good and competent teachers, and to be otherwise in a prosperous and highly satisfactory condition. With the efforts of the government and of the various religious and philanthropic societies of the United States thus united, the blessings and advantages of this great moral enterprise, worthy of the age and of the country, may be extended to the whole of our aboriginal race.

There are also now under contract, and in progress of establishment, seven more large manual labor schools: one among the Chickasaws, two among the Creeks, one among the Miamies, two among the Pottawatomies, and one among the Kanzas. The aggregate sum set apart by these tribes for the buildings and improvements is $34,000, and that for their annual endowment and maintenance about $26,000; which sums are in addition to the amount that is to be furnished by the missionary societies under whose care they will, in a great measure, be placed.

The Chickasaws are not disposed to stop with the establishment of one institution. They have recently authorized the Department to make arrangements for two more of the same description; and in a spirit of liberality that might be advantageously imitated elsewhere, have appropriated, from the interest arising from their stock investments, the sum of $12,000 for the buildings, and a like amount annually for their maintenance and support. And the Creeks, unwilling to be surpassed by their neighbors in their appreciation of the advantages arising from the education of their children, have determined in council to apply the whole proceeds of the fund realized from the sale of their orphan lands, which was invested in stocks, to a similar purpose.

The Choctaws have not only made provisions for the maintenance of eight large boarding schools in their own country, but they recently appropriated and set apart the interest arising from certain moneys which they have invested in stocks of the United States, for the instruction of such of their youth as, at the annual examinations of their own schools, may appear to evince the most promise and aptitude for study, in the various branches of a classical and scientific education. In pursuance of this policy, they sent on, during the last summer, to the care of this Department, five very interesting and promising boys, who have been accordingly entered at Delaware College, and who, although never before out of their own country, were found sufficiently advanced after a few months preparation for admission into the freshman class, and where they have since, according to the report of the learned and distinguished president of that institution, (appendix I,) "maintained their standing, manifesting mental capacity, industry and self-denying application fully equal to any of their associates."

The schools in the Cherokee nation are under the supervision and control of their own authorities, and are shown by the report of the superintendent to the principal chief, a copy of which has just been received at this office, to be in a highly flourishing condition.

In the support and management of this important and extensive system, there is nothing whatever drawn from the Treasury of the United States beyond the permanent annual appropriation of ten thousand dollars for "the civilization of Indians;" which, in order to afford the same advantages to tribes not possessed of means of their own, and as a matter of philanthropy and sound policy, should, in my opinion, be increased to fifty thousand dollars.

The law establishing the territorial government of Oregon omitted to provide for the appointment of any agents in that interesting portion of our country. The President, however, pursuant to that provision of the law of June 30th, 1834, organizing the department of Indian affairs, which authorizes him to employ a competent number of sub-agents to reside at such places as he may direct, appointed three persons who have long resided in Oregon, and were represented to be well acquainted with the location and peculiar characteristics of the various tribes in that region, to act in that capacity until more satisfactory arrangements can be made. The distribution of their duties and the boundaries of their respective agencies, have been left to the governor, who is by law the superintendent of Indian affairs in the territory, and to whom the necessary and usual instructions have been forwarded.

The fortunate termination of the war with Mexico, and the enlargement of our boundaries by the acquisition of California and New Mexico, will increase the number of Indians in the United States, and require the appointment of additional agents for the proper management of the affairs of this Department. The knowledge possessed by this office of the character, habits and location, of the various tribes within these territories, is too limited to justify it in making any specific recommendation as to the measures which should be adopted at this time. The extension over them of the

laws regulating our intercourse with the other Indians of the United States, and authority and means to appoint and maintain a suitable number of agents, will enable the Department to make such suggestions next year, for the consideration of the President and of Congress, as will lead to some more definite and satisfactory action on the subject.

From the various reports which have been received from Major Neighbours, the special and efficient agent of the United States in Texas, (copies of which are annexed,) it appears that peaceful and friendly relations with the numerous and warlike tribes of that State have generally been maintained. It may be, however, that this gratifying result is to be attributed, in some measure, to the large military force that has been kept on the frontier, and by which the whites as well as the Indians have been restrained from those acts of aggression which so frequently terminate in violence. Your attention has been called, in the two last reports from this office, to the peculiar situation of these Indians, and to the anomalous character of their relations to the general government. Texas, on coming into the Union, expressly reserved the right to, and exclusive jurisdiction over, all the vacant and unappropriated lands lying within her limits. The existing laws regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians, having been limited to certain geographical boundaries, and never having been expressly extended over Texas, are not believed to be in force in that State. The Department has therefore no power to prevent the settlement of disorderly white persons among the Indians, the introduction and sale of spirituous liquors, or the numerous other causes of strife and difficulty; and hence the duties of the agent have thus far been confined to such persuasive influences as he could bring to bear during his intercourse with the chiefs of the different tribes. By the 11th article of the treaty with the republic of Mexico, it will be perceived that the United States stipulate and agree to restrain all incursions of Indians from our territories into Mexico, for whatever purpose the same may be made, and when such incursions cannot be prevented, to punish and exact indemnity therefor, with the same diligence and energy as if they were meditated or committed within our territory and against our own people. Some legislation will be necessary for this purpose; and a proper observance of our stipulations with that republic, as well as the peace and safety of our own citizens residing on this new and extensive frontier, calls for such action as may be deemed requisite, at the earliest possible day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Hon. W. L. Marcy,
Secretary of War.

DOCUMENTS

ACCOMPANYING ANNUAL REPORT OF COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, FOR THE YEAR 1848.

A, B, C and D. Instructions in relation to removal of Choctaw Indians remaining east of the Mississippi.

E. Abstract of preliminary examination of debt claims against various Indian tribes.

F. Instructions enforcing economy in expenditures of a contingent character.

G and H. Statements of moneys invested and held in trust for various Indian tribes.

I. Report of Rev. James P. Wilson, president of Delaware college, in relation to Indian youths in that institution.

No. 1. Report of Thomas H. Harvey, superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis.

No. 2. Report of R. W. Cummins, agent for the Shawnees, Pottawatomies, Delawares, Stockbridges, Munsees, Kickapoos, and the Christian Indians, and missionary and school reports for that agency.

No. 3. Report of J. S. Rains, agent for the Kanzas, Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi, Ottawas, Chippewas, Peorias and Kaskaskias, Weas and Piankeshaws, and the Miamies, and missionary and school reports for that agency.

No. 2. Report of J. E. Fletcher, agent for the Winnebagoes, Chippewas of the Mississippi, and a portion of the Mississippi Sioux, and missionary and school reports for that agency.

No. 5. Report of John Miller, agent for the Pawnees, Omahas, and the Ottoes and Missourias, and missionary and school reports for that agency.

No. 6. Report of G. C. Matlock, agent for the Indians of the upper Missouri, viz: the Poncas, Sioux, Arickarees, Minatarees, Mandans, Cheyennes, Crows, Assinaboins, and Blackfeet.

No. 7. Report of Thomas Fitzpatrick, agent for the Indians on and between the upper Arkansas and Nebraska rivers, embracing Sioux, Cheyennes, Arapahoes, and other wandering tribes.

No. 8. Report of R. G. Murphy, sub-agent for the Sioux of the Mississippi, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.

No. 9. Report of A. J. Vaughan, sub-agent for the Iowas and the Sacs and Foxes of the Missouri, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.

No. 10. Report of Richard Hewit, sub-agent for the Wyandots.
No. 11. Report of S. M. Rutherford, acting superintendent of "western territory," and agent for the Choctaws, and missionary and school reports for that agency.
No. 12. Report of R. C. S. Brown, agent for the Cherokees, and missionary reports for that agency.
No. 13. Report of James Logan, agent for the Creeks, and missionary and school reports for that agency.
No. 14. Report of A. M. M. Upshaw, agent for the Chickasaws, and missionary report for that agency.
No. 15. Report of B. A. James, sub-agent for the Senecas, the Senecas and Shawnees, and the Quapaws, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
No. 16. Report of J. M. Richardson, sub-agent for the Osages, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
No. 17. Report of W. A. Richmond, acting superintendent for the district of Michigan, and agent for the Ottawas and Chippewas, Chippewas of Saginaw, Chippewas of Swan creek and Black river, and the Pottawatomies of the Huron, and missionary and school reports for that agency.
No. 18. Report of James Ord, sub-agent for the Chippewas in the vicinity of the Sault Ste. Marie, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
No. 19. Report of J. S. Livermore, sub-agent for the Chippewas of Lake Superior, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
No. 20. Report of A. G. Ellis, sub-agent for the Menomonies, Stockbridges, and Oneidas in Wisconsin, and missionary and school reports for that sub-agency.
No. 21. Report of R. H. Shankland, sub-agent for the Seneca and other Indians in New York, and school reports for that sub-agency.
No. 22. Reports of R. S. Neighbors, special agent for the Indians in Texas.

APPENDIX.

A.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, October 9, 1847.

SIR: The general government having assumed the obligation of relieving the States of the Choctaw Indians yet remaining east of the Mississippi river, so far as they can be induced to remove, and thereby rendered itself liable to the heavy expense, the subject of the best modes of consummating that obligation has been one of no little difficulty and anxiety. The system of removal by contract has been tried, under what were considered favorable circumstances, and, in effect, failed; for, during the long period of over two years and a half, under this system, only about half of the estimated number of Indians remaining east (7,000) were removed. The contract expired some time since, and it became a question of much moment, whether the same system should be continued, or whether some other mode could not be adopted, by which more rapid progress could be made, with the same or less expense. In anticipation of this difficulty, your predecessor, who was distinguished for his sound, practical judgment, and whose experience in the business was very great, was written to on the 3d of June last, and requested to communicate his views on the subject, to aid the Department in coming to a correct determination. His sudden and lamented death prevented our having the benefit of his advice. The late contract having expired, and all operations having ceased, it was necessary to come to some determination upon the subject; and, after much anxious reflection, it has been concluded that the best course to be pursued, and, probably, under the circumstances, almost the only justifiable one, is for the government to take the business directly into its own hands, and endeavor to remove the Indians through the instrumentality and exertions of agents of its own selection and appointment. The President has, therefore, ordered that the whole business be committed to the management of yourself, aided by such assistants as may be requisite for its prompt and economical accomplishment. A copy of his decision is enclosed.

Thomas C. Stuart, esq., has been appointed assistant superintendent, to have the immediate and active management of the operations east of the Mississippi river, under your directions and the instructions of this office. He has been required to give bond in the sum of five thousand dollars, and satisfactory sureties for the faithful performance of his duties, and that such sums of money as you may find it necessary to place in his hands are properly accounted for, though it is desirable that all the expenditures shall, as far as practicable, be made by yourself. This appoint-

ment was made because the accumulation of the business of your superintendency and agency, in consequence of the sickness and death of Major Armstrong, and your important current duties in both situations, particularly at this season, would prevent, at least for a time, your giving to the business the immediate and active exertions on the spot which are requisite. When you shall have been able so to arrange your other duties as to admit of your giving to this your active exertions both east and west of the Mississippi, the services and expense of the principal assistant may, it is believed, be dispensed with. Such other assistants and persons as it may be necessary to employ may be selected by yourself; and you are authorized to determine the rates of their compensation, according to the nature of the duties and the value of their services, not to exceed, if possible, the rates fixed in the regulations of the Department for the various kinds of service required in the emigration of Indians.

The number of Choctaws remaining east in 1844 was estimated, in round numbers, at seven thousand, of which, according to the returns received at this office, three thousand eight hundred and twenty-four have since been removed. They were principally those who intended becoming citizens of the States—that privilege being granted them by the treaty of 1830, on their notifying the agent of the government of their desire to that effect, within six months after the ratification of the treaty; which also authorized that after a five years' continuous residence, with the intention of becoming citizens, lands should be granted them in fee simple—six hundred and forty acres for each head of a family, and for the children forming a part thereof three hundred and twenty acres for each over ten and unmarried, and one hundred and sixty for each under ten years of age.

It having been represented that many entitled to these benefits had, from various causes beyond their control, been prevented from fulfilling the prescribed requirements, Congress authorized the appointment of commissioners to investigate their cases, whose report, when approved by the Secretary of War, was to be final; where, in the cases favorably acted on, land could be given in accordance with the provisions of the treaty, it was to be done; but if the land had been disposed of, or was so encumbered that it could not be given, the claimants were to receive in lieu certificates authorizing the location of the same quantity elsewhere. These certificates are known by the name of scrip, one half of which was not, under any circumstances, to be delivered to the claimants until after arrival west. A subsequent law funded this half, and allows the claimants an annual interest thereon of five per cent. if they remove west. The time and place of the delivery of the other half was left discretionary; and the decision heretofore was, that it should not be paid until after the arrival of the parties west, unless, in the opinion of the acting superintendent of the western territory and agent for the tribe, in whose custody it was placed, a different course was requisite to facilitate emigration. In that case he was authorized to deliver it east when the

Indians were so far on their route, or were assembled under such circumstances, as to satisfy him of their intention to emigrate. Being satisfied, however, that the withholding of it all until the arrival of the parties at their new homes will tend to expedite emigration, and thus to lessen the expenses attending it, as well as be for the interests and welfare of the Indians, the President has directed that it be withheld accordingly.

The Indians who were allowed lands, it is understood, have generally transferred them to individuals, who, after obtaining the patents, are to dispose of them, retaining one half of the proceeds and paying the Indian the other half. It is problematical whether in any such cases the Indians will ever receive any thing; but those who were allowed scrip have no such expectation to detain them east. They can get nothing until after their arrival west; and the sooner they go there the better it will be for them, not only on that account, but because it is not till then that the interest on the funded half of their scrip commences, which, in the event of removal, will be paid regularly once a year, and be of considerable assistance to them.

If those who were allowed lands realize any thing from their bargains, it will probably be taken from them for debts which they have already contracted, or if that be not done, they will soon expend the little they receive, and then be left destitute of all means and resources, in the midst of a white population, with which, in labor or enterprize, they cannot compete, and where they must suffer the greatest want, and become a set of wandering vagabonds, leading a life of privation and degradation, terminating in a miserable death. Such also will be the lot of those entitled to scrip if they do not go west; nor would the payment of the scrip east avert it, for they would soon squander what it would realize, and then be left destitute. How much better then for all to remove west, where there are plenty of excellent lands for all, where, with a little prudence, energy and enterprise, they could soon comfortably establish themselves and provide for their families; where they would have the advantage of excellent schools in operation, and about to be established, for the education of their children, and where they would be among brethren and friends who would rejoice in their prosperity, and in misfortune sympathize with and lend them a helping hand. Removing, they would have every prospect of soon bettering their condition; remaining where they are, their every step must, in the nature of things and according to all past experience, be rapidly downwards, even to the lowest depths of misery and suffering. On their own account, on that of their families, and especially for the interests and welfare of their children, they cannot too soon remove. These considerations, and others of a like nature which may occur to you, will be urged with all the skill and effect in the power of yourself and assistants, to induce them to consent to emigrate. Those to whom scrip is coming will be told that it is now in your hands ready for them, and that you will pay it to them on their arrival west, and all may be assured that there they will receive the kindest treatment both from

the agents of the government and their brethren, and that every thing in the power of the Department will be done to render them comfortable, happy and prosperous. Should you find it necessary to convince the Indians of the fact of the scrip being ready, and to influence them to emigrate, you may show, or cause it to be shown, to them, at the same time informing them of the amount it will probably realize them. And should you become satisfied that the measure would have a happy tendency, you are authorized to select, and take or send to the east, a few of the most judicious and influential persons who have been removed and established in their new country, and who can be relied on for the pnrpose, in order that they may co-operate with you by representing to their brethren the brighter prospects which await them west, and the great advantages of removal.

The expenses of the emigration must not be increased by keeping parties too long in camps prior to starting, nor by sending off detachments too small in number. The expense of emigrating a small party would be nearly as great as that of removing one considerably larger, the smaller requiring the same number of agents and nearly the same means of transportation. It must, therefore, as far as practicable, be so arranged that the Indians will not go into camp until a sufficient number can be induced to do so to form a party of a respectable size, and they should be removed as soon after assembling as possible, the means of transportation and subsistence being provided, or arrangements made therefore, beforehand. The routes by which the different parties should be taken must, in some degree, depend upon the section of the Choctaw country west, in which they are to be located, which, as far as can be done, must be determined beforehand. If it be necessary to induce them to remove, their wishes as to the route and the mode of transportation, whether by land or water, will be consulted; but the latter will, as far as possible, be adopted, as being the most economical. It may, as heretofore, be found that many of them have ponies which they will be unwilling to leave behind. Where they cannot well dispose of them before starting, and positively refuse to go without them, they will be permitted to take them; but, to whatever extent this is done, the means of land transportation should be diminished accordingly, as they can ride and carry many things upon them, which otherwise would have to be transported for them. Every aid in the power of yourself and assistants should be afforded them in disposing of such of their effects, to as much advantage as may be, as cannot well be taken with them; and every effort should be made to induce them to preserve what means they may have, and what they may, in this way, realize, in order that they may be able, as far as possible, to provide for their necessities and wants on their arrival in their new country. If any be sick, or it be necessary to assuage their fears, and to induce them to remove, medical aid may be employed on the route; but this must be done for the most limited period practicable, and on the most reasonable terms. All the operations must be in ac-

cordance with the prescribed regulations on the subject of emigration, and the strictest economy be observed.

It is represented that there are persons in Mississippi who were in some way connected with the operations under the late contract, and who, in the expectation of that instrument being again extended or renewed, have collected and have in charge parties of Indians for emigration. If this be the case, you are authorized to take such parties off their hands, and to make them such compensation for their services and expenses in collecting and keeping the Indians together as may be reasonable and just; not to exceed, however, the rate or amount of expense to which the government would have been put for the same parties, judging from the expenditure for the parties collected and prepared for emigration by its own agents; or, if any of the persons alluded to be desirous of delivering such Indians to you west of the Mississippi river, you may permit them to do so, taking care that each party be accompanied by an agent of the government, to see that they are properly subsisted and otherwise cared for; provided that the amount of compensation to be paid for collecting, subsisting and removing them, shall, in no instance, exceed the cost of those which may be removed by the government, or the sum per capita stipulated in the late contract with Alexander Anderson & Co. Parties removed in this way should be regularly mustered, and copies of the muster rolls, &c., sent to this office, as in the case of the Indians emigrated by the agents of the government.

It is important that the Indians be generally informed, as soon as practicable, of the change in the mode of operation, and of the wishes and intentions of the government with respect to them; and in order that no time may be lost, a copy of these instructions will be sent to Mr. Stuart, the assistant superintendent, and he will be instructed to proceed immediately to counsel with them on the subject. He will be directed, also, to keep you advised of his movements, in order that you may be able to communicate with him, and give him such instructions as you may consider necessary.

With reference to the payment of the scrip, full instructions will be given you at an early day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD, ESQ.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs,
Choctaw Agency, west.

P. S. A copy of the instructions to Mr. Stuart is enclosed for your information.

B.

Having examined and duly considered the questions presented to me through the Secretary of War, connected with the removal of the Choctaw Indians yet remaining east of the Mississippi, I am of opinion,

First. That the whole business of removal should now, after the great delay and uncertainty connected with the contract system, which has been experienced, be taken in hand directly by the government and carried out, so far as well can be, by agents of its own selection and appointment. With this view it will be placed under the direction of the acting superintendent of the western territory and agent for the tribe, who will be aided by such assistants as may be necessary during the progress of the operations, and as may be sanctioned by the Secretary of War, and to expedite the business an experienced and competent person will now be appointed to take the immediate superintendence of it in such manner and under such regulations as may be prescribed by the said Secretary. This person will be required to give bond in a reasonable amount, to be determined by the Secretary of War, with satisfactory sureties, for the faithful performance of his duties, and for such sums of money being duly and properly accounted for as the government or acting superintendent may find it necessary to place in his hands. His compensation and that of the other assistants will be fixed by the Secretary of War.

Second. With respect to the certificates or scrip payable to the Indians, I am clearly of opinion that, as heretofore decided by the Secretary of War, there is full and ample discretion under the law as to the time and place of payment; and the government having at a heavy expense assumed the obligation of relieving the States of these Indians, it has a clear and unquestionable right to pursue such a course of policy in regard to the payment of the scrip, not inconsistent with the laws upon the subject, as in its judgment may tend to facilitate the emigration of the Indians, and to lessen the expense connected therewith And being satisfied, after full and mature consideration, that the withholding of the scrip until after their arrival in their new country will have that tendency and effect, whilst the interests of the Indians will be thereby promoted, I direct that it be withheld accordingly. It will be delivered by the agent of the tribe as soon after their arrival as practicable and the best interests of the Indians may seem to require, under such regulations and instructions as the Secretary of War may think it right and proper to adopt. As heretofore, its assignment or transfer by the Indians to other persons must be witnessed by the agent in person, and be formally attested by him in writing, according to the regulations now in force; but he will in no instance certify such assignment or transfer without evidence full and satisfactory to him, that it was for a fair and adequate consideration, in order to secure justice being done to the Indians.

JAMES K. POLK.

WASHINGTON, *September* 25, 1847.

C.

War Department,
Office Indian Affairs, February 12, 1848.

Sir: I enclose for your information and government, a copy of a report from this office to the Secretary of War, which having been approved by him, extends the privilege of participating in the removal of the Choctaw Indians to all persons of a proper character disposed to enter into it.

As the payment for the persons removed will have to be made on their delivery in the west, you will keep yourself informed of the probable progress of the emigration, so as to transmit estimates of the funds which will be required from time to time for that purpose, in order that the Department may remit you the amounts in season for payment, on the delivery of the Indians to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

S. M. Rutherford, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs,
Choctaw Agency, Western Territory.

D.

War Department,
Office Indian Affairs, February 11, 1848.

Sir: Under the order of the President of the 25th September last, the system of general and exclusive contract for the removal of the Choctaw Indians, yet east of the Mississippi, has been discontinued and the business taken directly in charge by this Department. Instructions were issued on the 9th of October last, committing the superintendence of it to S. M. Rutherford, Choctaw agent, with the aid of an assistant, and such subordinate employees as might be found absolutely requisite. The instructions authorized the superintendent to receive parties of Indians which had been collected by persons under the expectation of the further extension or of the renewal of the expired contract with Alexander Anderson and others, and who had thereby incurred some expense, or to permit them to remove the Indians so collected, and to pay them a reasonable compensation for their trouble and expenses in both cases; so that the whole cost of removal, however, should not exceed twenty-six dollars and seventy-one cents per head—the rate stipulated in the Anderson contract.

From representations recently received from Mr. Rutherford, it seems probable that, in consequence of the extent and pressure of his duties as Choctaw agent west, and superintendent of the western territory, he will be unable, for some time, to give that immediate and active personal attention to the business necessary to ensure its rapid and effectual progress; while it is urged by the

representatives from Mississippi, and other gentlemen in and out of Congress who take an interest in it, that it would be much hastened, and its accomplishment secured at a much earlier day, by extending to all such persons as may be disposed to enter into it, the privilege of removing such of the Indians as they can collect for that purpose, on the terms already mentioned. How far this would be the case, this office is unable to form an opinion. It is disposed, however, to yield a proper acquiescence to the wishes of the gentlemen referred to, some of whom and their constituents are immediately and materially interested in the early completion of the emigration, and I therefore suggest for your approval the extension of the privilege adverted to in the manner stated.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

Hon. Wm. L. Marcy,
Secretary of War.

The foregoing recommendation is approved: February 11, 1848.
W. L. MARCY.

E.

INDIAN DEBT CLAIMS.—POTTAWATOMIES.

No. 1. *Ewings & Clymer* against Pottowatomies of the Osage river.—This claim amounts to $4,773, and embraces balances of old accounts and charges for articles of merchandise of various kinds, including some provisions, against two hundred and four individual Indians, varying in amount, in each case, from 25 cents to 247 dollars. The dates of the charges are at various periods between November 3, 1839, and September 14, 1845. There is no data upon which to judge whether the charges are reasonable, as in many cases quantities and dates are not stated, and there is nothing to indicate the particular kinds or qualities of the articles. Some $1,580 25 is the amount of old balances claimed as remaining unpaid, at various annual payments, during the time embraced in the charges, which are without any specification as to the time when the original debts were created, of what they consisted, what was the original amount, &c.; being just charged in gross, in each case, as a balance remaining unpaid at a particular time.

Of the amount charged, $2,410 58 is for "depredations and seizure of property belonging to us (the claimants) on Sugar creek, in the month of January, 1842," by the "Pottawatomies of the Wabash," without any specification of what the depredations consisted, what was the character of the property seized, or the circumstances under which the acts were committed.

Thus, of the whole amount charged, there is only some $830 of which there is any specification or explanation whatever.

In regard to the depredations and seizure of property, they can-

not be charged up as claims arising in the course of trade. Specific provision is made, in regard to such claims, in the 17th section of the intercourse act, of 1834, which requires a certain course to be pursued in regard to them. That course was adopted in this case; the claim was examined by my predecessor in 1845, and disallowed after a full consideration of all the facts and evidence, and so far as this office is concerned, that decision must be regarded as final.

There is a written obligation executed on the 16th of June, 1846, by eleven Indians, purporting to be the chief and head men of the band, promising to pay the whole amount of the claim out of the first money accruing under the treaty of 1846, viz: the funds set apart for debts, &c. But the Indians, from some cause unknown to the Department, failed to pay any portion of the amount out of that fund, and the obligation would, therefore, seem to be void as it respects any other fund belonging to them.

2. *W. G. & G. W. Ewing's* claim against same Indians, amounting to $6,410 70.—This claim covers the period between January 1, 1845, and June 16, 1846. It consists of accounts against 360 Indians, individually, varying in amount from 62 cents to $135 86. Some $1,203 07 of the amount is made up of balances, without specification or explanation, charged as remaining unpaid after the annuity payment of 1845. There is a written obligation for the amount, given by the same eleven Indians, and in the same manner as in the preceding case, and to which the same remarks are applicable, as are also those in reference to whether the charges are reasonable.

3. *W. G. & G. W. Ewing* against Pottawatomies of Council Bluffs, amounting to $40,351 07.—For goods and provisions &c., from 19th September, 1845, to 27th May, 1846, consisting of accounts against 609 individual Indians, varying in amount from 75 cents to $1,192 58. Of the amount, $32,167 17 consist of balances against various individuals of former accounts, and of notes amounting to $1,392 22, in regard to which, no specification of the articles furnished is given, nor any thing that would enable the office to judge of the reasonableness of the charges. There is an obligation given by the chiefs and braves, for $40,277 47, payable out of the annuities due the tribe, in instalments; the first to be $13,000, and the remainder in each of the years, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1851 and 1852. On this obligation is endorsed a credit of $12,250, paid 1st October, 1847.

4. *W. W. Cleghorn's* claim; amount, $3,568 64.—This claim is against 297 Indians, individually, varying in amount in each case, the smallest being 38 cents and the largest $250 05. The earliest dates of charges are in June, 1837, and the latest in June, 1847. $1,012 52 is made up of old balances (in one case a note for $131 75) unpaid at various periods, without explanation or specification, and the remainder is generally for merchandise of

different kinds; of the reasonableness of the prices of which, as in the preceding claims, it is difficult to judge, as the quantities of the articles are not specified, being just charged in gross. There is a written obligation given by the same Indians, and in the same manner as in cases 1 and 2. There are also small amounts of cash charged; and, in one case, $160 for building four houses and one stable.

5. *Moses H. Scott & Co.'s* claim; amount, $3,500.—This claim is for merchandise, including provisions, at different periods, from March 1, 1843, to June 15, 1846, the whole being charged to the "Pottawatomie tribe of Indians," the names of the individual Indians to whom the articles were sold or delivered not being given in any case. There is a written obligation for the amount to Moses H. Scott from the same Indians, and given in the same manner as in cases 1, 2, and 4, and there is the same difficulty as to reasonableness of charges.

6. *J. B. Dutrois'* claim; amount, $1,673.—For goods and provisions sold between September 8, 1844, and June 17, 1846, to 122 individuals, in amounts varying from $1 to $68 60. Written obligation the same as in cases 1, 2, 4, and 5; and same difficulty as to reasonableness of charges.

7. *P. Chouteau, jr. & Co.'s* claim; amount, $7,163 28.—For goods and provisions from November, 1841, to June, 1846, consisting of accounts against 318 individual Indians, varying in amount from 25 cents to $128 50. Of the amount, $156 22 consists of balances against various individuals of former accounts remaining unpaid, in regard to which there is no further information than the simple charge of the balances. Nor is there any means of judging of the reasonableness of the charges. Written obligation from same Indians, as in the cases above referred to. This firm was paid $11,250, on account of debt claims against the Pottawatomies at the annual payment of last year. Of the amount charged, $300 is for depredations, to which the remarks in case number 1, in relation to claims of this character, apply. It must be specially proved up before the Department in the manner required by the 17th section of the trade and intercourse act of 1834, before being presented to the tribe and demand made for payment, which appears not to have been done.

8. Claim of *Pearson & Cooper;* amount, $4,488 08.—Against 419 individuals, varying per individual from 50 cents to $128 62. The charges bear date from 1840 to 1845, inclusive. The original amount of the account was $1,000 more, that sum being credited and deducted in gross, as received from the Indians at the annuity payment last year. $252 is made up of old balances, without specification, and there is nothing to enable the Department to judge of the reasonableness of the charges.

9. Claim of *Benjamin Holt;* amount, $1,064 95.—This claim is wholly without items, being merely a schedule of amounts charged in gross to 30 individuals, varying from 50 cents to $589. In the heading the allegation is made that the claim is "for merchandise purchased by said Indians," and an affidavit attached states that no part of the amount charged was for spirituous liquors. The amounts in three of the cases are charged as balances of notes; in one $589, and in the others $10 and $15, respectively. In the two latter cases the notes are submitted; in the first it is alleged that the note has been lost or destroyed and cannot be found. There is nothing to show the consideration for, or circumstances under, which the notes were given, and no evidence of what were the articles of merchandise, the prices, or reasonableness of the charges.

10. Claim of *John H. Whitehead;* $1,100 22.—This is a balance after deducting $500 received from the Indians October 8, 1847. This claim is principally for provisions, and a small part for groceries, charged against 103 individual Indians, between January, 1840, and November, 1843, in amounts varying from 65 cents to $354 03. Some of the charges appear to be very high, and there is nothing to show how far they are generally reasonable. In two cases the charges are for the amounts of two notes, (not presented,) one for $110 and the other for $37 50, given by two individuals; though for what consideration and under what circumstances do not appear. Mr. Whitehead states that he is ready to submit to any investigation to test the merits and justness of his claim.

11. *Stephen Cooper;* $2,612 50.—All there is about this claim is a memorandum, of which the following is a copy, transmitted by Mr. Whitehead in a letter to the Hon. W. P. Hall, enclosing his own claim.

"Council Bluffs, 1844.

"The whole amount of debts of Major Stephen Cooper, against the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawattomie Indians, is $2,612 50, entirely for provisions."

12. *N. C. Owens;* claim of heirs of Elizabeth and Sarah Frances Owens; $473.—This claim is presented in the form of a joint note of J. & L. Vieau for $488, dated October 12, 1840, upon which there is a credit of $15, leaving the amount stated as a balance. It is supported by affidavit of Henry Owens and Malcolm Clarke (whose credibility is not attested) that the claim is just, and the consideration of the note was flour furnished to the two Vieaus. There is nothing to show the time or circumstances under which the flour was furnished, whether at a reasonable price, or whether it was for private use or for purposes of speculation.

13. Claim of *Elijah Polk & Sons;* $5,532 99, viz: 1. Robert Polk for $697 92, is made up of charges against 39 individuals, and is for ammunition, dry goods, hardware, and provisions, including

groceries. The dates of the charges run from 16th June, 1837, to 5th May, 1838, and the amount of the individual accounts range from 75 cents to $58 50. One of the charges is for balance due on note of $157, and contains no other specification. 2. Robert Polk & Co., amount $2,316 33, is for similar articles, and for horses, &c., furnished 210 individuals, whose accounts range from 50 cents to $236 88, and are embraced in a period from 2d May, 1838, to 14th March, 1842. 3. Elijah Polk & Sons, amount $2,518 74, is for similar articles, &c., and charged against 182 individuals, whose accounts range from 50 cents to $239 26, and embrace a period from March 18, 1841, to November 10, 1846.

Appended to these claims, is a certificate of Major R. W. Cummins, Indian agent, recommendatory of the claimants as persons of good character, correct business habits, &c.; and to the aggregate of the claims is credited a national obligation for $5,515, executed 13th June, 1846, which obligation has not been filed.

14. Claim of *E. H. Hubbard & Co.*, $236 00.—Is for dry goods, ammunition, provisions, groceries, &c., furnished eleven individuals, whose accounts range from $3 38 to $60 97 each. The periods of the charges is not given, but the claim is headed with the year "1845." Accompanying the demand is an obligation signed by the "chiefs and head men of the Pottawatomie nation, agreeing to pay the amount, $236, in two instalments, out of the first moneys accruing under the treaty of 1846," which is dated 17th June, 1846, and witnessed by the superintendent Indian affairs, at St. Louis, and others.

15. Claim of *William Bartlett*, $1,049 99.—Consists of three separate accounts, for the years 1845 and 1846, containing charges against one hundred and nineteen individuals, whose personal accounts range from 50 cents to $166 each, and are almost solely for provisions. With this claim is filed an obligation, signed by the "chiefs and head men, warriors, and young men of the Pottawatomie nation," agreeing to pay to the order of Andrew Jackson, the sum of $1,050, which order is assigned on its back to Bartlett. This obligation is presumed to have been given to cover this claim, although there is nothing to justify the presumption, except the fact of its being filed with the papers in the case.

Miamies.

16. *W. G. & G. W. Ewing*	$8,241 00
Less this amount credited in gross	3,000 00
Amount now claimed	5,241 00
17. *James H. Kintner*	$834 60
18. *Tabor & Hamilton*	$6,300 00

These three claims (the two latter of which are presented by the Messrs. Ewing, on powers of attorney) are based upon awards made in favor of the parties named, by a board of arbitrators, composed of E. Murray, W. Z. Stuart, and Graham N. Fitch, appointed under an agreement entered into between the tribe and their creditors, in the summer of 1846; and to sustain their demands, they file a certified copy of the report of awards, of the said arbitrators. In the papers submitted with these claims, there is nothing to show the nature of the indebtedness of the Indians, and nothing by which the reasonableness of the charges can be judged of, the periods embraced cannot be ascertained, nor whether the charges are against individuals or against the tribe collectively. In these cases there is no other obligation to pay these claims than what is contained in the agreement before referred to, viz: that both parties should abide the decision of the arbitrators.

19. *Berthelet & Avaline*	$22,708 61
Amount deducted "on compromise"	3,308 61
	19,400 00

This claim embraces charges against 221 individuals, varying in amount per individual, from 25 cents to $1,187 32. The charges bear date from May, 1842, to November, 1845, and are for merchandise and provisions mostly; $148 50 are for whiskey, wine, and the transportation thereof; $187 38 for balances from old accounts, and $2,531 24 for "sundries," cash loaned, orders on individuals for tolls, &c., money paid, accounts of others, judgments, taxes, building houses, debts assumed, &c. In this case there is a special written obligation given for the amount, dated 28th February, 1847, purporting to have been signed by the "chiefs, warriors, heads of families, and individuals," 80 in number, witnessed by the government interpreter, George Hunt, stipulating to pay the same in three instalments, of which the first, amounting to $10,000, has been paid and acknowledged on the obligation, leaving due the sum of $9,400. This, like the preceding claims, was submitted to, and acted upon by, the arbitrators, who awarded the sum of $19,200 09—the whole demand then amounting to $25,079 34.

20. *E. French*, $2,566 23.—Is for provisions and clothing to 89 individuals, varying in amount from $4 to $548 29, and the charges made within the years 1843 and 1846. The amounts charged up of balances from old accounts, amount to $85, and are without specification. This claim was likewise before the board of arbitrators, who awarded the sum of $1,635 37—the whole charges at that time amounting to $2,358 11.

21. *M. & L. Falk*	$8,197 35
Less this sum	3,209 38
Balance claimed	4,987 97

For goods, provisions, &c., sold between the 9th December, 1842, and 2d October, 1845, to 143 individuals, in amounts varying from 50 cents to $300. $173 38 are for balances from previous settlements, containing no specifications. This claim was also submitted to, and acted upon by, the board of arbitrators, who awarded the sum of $3,886 31, the demand at that time amounting to $4,922 01.

In regard to the six immediately preceding claims, it is proper to state that when the report of the awards made by the arbitrators was presented for the approval of the Department, it promptly and positively refused to have anything to do with it, the President having but a short time previously decided that the government would not recognize, in any shape, claims against these Indians which had arisen after the 25th February, 1841; the indebtedness of the Indians, up to that time, having been fully and finally settled, by the President allowing the sum of $75,000 to be paid out of the annuities of the tribe in instalments of $12,500 per annum; that the annuities in future would be paid over to those entitled to receive them, when each Indian could pay his individual debts, if he thought proper; and that such would be the settled policy of the government, and would, under no circumstances, be departed from. The claims were twice presented, fully considered, and rejected, both by the Department and the President.

22. *A. Coquillard, Samuel Edsall, and G. W. and W. G. Ewing*, $7,621 60.—This is a claim set up for expenses and losses in carrying out the contract for the removal of the Miami Indians from Indiana, alleged to have been caused by the failure of the Indians to go at the time fixed upon and promised by them, and should not, in any manner or form, be recognized as a demand against either the government or the Indians. Although the contract for the removal of the Miamies has, so far, been carried out by the above parties, this has been done under arrangements which have never been recognized or sanctioned. With reference to any rights or interests under the contract, the Department knows and can recognize no one but the original contractor, Thomas Dowling; and were any such claim urged by him, it could not be entertained, because the contract fixed no time within which the Indians were to remove, and provided that the sum to be paid to the contractor should include, and be in full, for any and all objects and expenses whatever connected with, or growing out of, the removal of the Indians, and their subsistence for one year west. It was expressly stipulated that "no extra charge" should be paid "for any detention that may occur in the collecting and removing of said Miami tribe of Indians; but that all expenses, of whatever character, which may occur in the collecting, transporting, and provisioning any or all of said Indians, shall be paid by the said Thomas Dowling; and that, in no event, shall the United States hereafter be subject to any claim for damages or compensation for any loss or injury that may be alleged to arise out of this contract under any circumstances, or in any event whatever." The amount stipulated to be

paid to the contractor was, moreover, a most extravagant one, viz: $55,000, the number of Indians being estimated at 650 only; about 383 of which have been removed. But were the facts otherwise, the failure of the Indians to removè at the time fixed upon was caused mainly, if not entirely, by the improper interference of their alleged creditors, among whom were some of the parties to the present claim, the object of delaying the emigration being to coerce the government to a recognition of the claims alleged against the Indians.

Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi.

23. *W. G. and G. W. Ewing*, $8,720 83.—Contains charges against the confederated tribes, though stated on the back of the claim to be "owing by the Sacs, for dry goods principally, furnished at one time, viz: 16th April, 1843, to the nation, amounting to $6,391 47, and for similar articles of dry goods, and for horses, bridles, &c., furnished to ninety-four individuals, between October, 1843, and September, 1845, for $1,779 21; and for merchandise, &c., furnished "Hard Fish's band," from April to September, 1844, $350 03; and to Pash-e-pa-hoe's band, from 30th August to 14th September, 1844, $173 23; and to Keokuck's band, 11th September, 1844, $26 89—$8,720 83. The amount of the individual accounts range from $2 to $227 30; and the prices charged in the whole claim seem high.

24. *G. W. and W. G. Ewing*, $770.—This claim is made out, as is the previous one, against the united tribes, but it is stated to be owing by the Foxes, and is made up chiefly of balances brought forward, purporting to be for horses sold to fifty-one individuals; the charges bear date 28th and 29th October, 1846, and there being nothing to show the original prices charged, it is impossible to judge of their reasonableness.

25. *P. Chouteau, jr., & Co.*, $6,209 78.—Are charges against Hard Fish's band, bearing date from 20th January to 12th May, 1845, for $975, and against 181 individuals, bearing date from September, 1844, to September, 1847, for $5,036 78. The amount of the several individual accounts range from $3 50 to $104; and there is but one that comes up to the latter sum, whilst there are but very few of the others that exceed $70. The articles charged for are provisions and dry goods, and there are balances from old accounts, which purport to be for horses previously sold, amounting to $198.

26. *W. A. and J. B. Scott*, $4,369 12.—For dry goods and other articles sold Hard Fish's band, between 23d September, 1844, and 16th July, 1845, among which may be enumerated as follows, viz.:
1,763 yards calico, at from 20 to 31 cents per yard.
420 yards cloth, averaging $3 per yard.
164 blankets, from $3 to $5 each; and, in addition to the above,

there are charges made for cash lent, $23, and for balances due on old accounts, principally for horses sold, about $300.

27. *W. A. and J. B. Scott*, $1,752 73.—This account is for dry goods sold Keokuck, chief, between the 23d September, 1844, and 29th November, 1845, consisting of 574 yards calico, 222 yards cloth, 74 blankets, and numerous other articles, such as sheeting, shawls, shirts, flannels, &c., &c. A balance of $15, from previous accounts, for horses sold, is also charged up.

28. *John H. Whistler*, $4,312 94.—Against the united tribes, and is for articles purchased between the 1st June, 1845, and 5th October, 1846—such as provisions, dry goods, twenty horses, from $20 to $75 each; thirty-three saddles, at from $10 to $25 each; twenty swords, at $8 each; twenty-eight epaulettes, at $3 each; thirteen uniform coats, at $30 a piece; sword-canes, at $6 each; pistols, at $4 50 and $5; &c., &c.;—also charged for cash lent, $34.

29. *Abraham Vanmeter*, $600.—For twenty horses sold in October, 1846, to Hard Fish, chief, for the use of his band.

Iowas.

30. *Michael Robideaux*, $700 00.—Is for blankets, cloths, and other articles furnished the tribe on the 16th October, 1841, and at fair rates. In this case, an obligation to pay the same out of their "first" annuities is filed, and the sub-agent for the tribe reports that the Indians, in council, admitted the correctness of the account, and expressed a willingness to pay it.

31. *F. C. McCreary*	$240 87
Deduct amount paid out of annuity, Nov., 1846	100 00
	140 87

The charges in this account are for cash loaned, $21; and horses furnished to White Cloud, Little Wolf, and two or three other individuals; $85 are for provisions for the tribe. There are, also, charges for two oxen killed, which should not be charged upon a claim arising in the course of trade, but being for depredations, should follow the course pointed out in the seventeenth section of the intercourse act of 1834.

32. *J. and B. H. Dixon*, $2,455 28.—This is an account, in detail, for articles sold to individual Indians, in the period between the latter part of 1841, and the year 1845, inclusive. The charges are specific, and are, generally, for articles of clothing, groceries, ornaments, horses, &c. In another account, or rather an abstract of accounts, giving the aggregate amount of indebtedness for each of the years 1842, '43, '44, and '45, the amount is stated to be, $4,458 75

And the credits during the same period	2,170 00
Leaving a balance of	2,228 75

If the credits, above referred to, be applied to the first or detailed account, the balance left would amount to only $285 28, and this balance, it seems, has been paid, for the sub-agent, in his letter transmitting this claim, refers to a receipt of the Messrs. Dixon for $300 paid them in 1846, and states it to be his impression and understanding, that this was in full settlement of the Iowas' indebtedness to the claimants. It is, however, alleged that this payment was for provisions furnished at that time, and some affidavits are filed to sustain the allegation. But whether it was or not, and a balance is still due them, can, so far as the Department is concerned, make no difference in the view taken of the claims in question. The Messrs. Dixon were not trading under a license in the Indian country, but resided without the line, in the State of Missouri, and, such being the case, the transactions should be considered of a private character, as between individuals, and in no way be taken cognizance of by the government.

Weas and Piankeshaws.

33. *Ewings and Clymer*	$4,244 85
Credits given on same	2,317 21
Balance claimed	1,927 64

This is an account against the tribe, jointly, for goods purporting to have been purchased by Baptiste Peoria, between February, 1840, and February 7, 1843, and for cash paid at sundry times, viz.:

Amount paid at different periods	$274 77
" " "Jim Peoria's outfit to the Snake country"	208 75
" " J. Peoria	68 25
" " On orders	82 00

The goods consisted of cloths, blankets, flannels, calicoes, sheetings, flour, bacon, ammunition, &c., but it is nowhere stated what proportion of the charge belongs to each tribe. The tribes are separate and distinct, though they do occupy a country in common. Their annuities are paid to each, separately, and the account should have been made against each.

War Department,
Office Indian Affairs, November 21, 1848.

F.

[Circular.]

War Department,
Office Indian Affairs, September 9, 1848.

The attention of the superintendents, agents and sub-agents of this Department, is particularly called to the subject of travelling

and other incidental and contingent expenses connected with the execution of their duties. The expenditures of this character occasion a heavy draft upon the contingent fund of the Department; and every effort must be made to bring and keep them within as small a compass as possible. The travelling expenses of the two superintendencies west of the Mississippi river, must, necessarily, be considerable, as they embrace a large number of Indians, spread over a vast extent of country; and it is of great advantage to the service that the superintendents occasionally visit the agencies and sub-agencies within their jurisdiction, on tours of inspection, so as to be able to keep the Department properly advised of any abuses, irregularities, or delinquencies, and of the general state of affairs within their superintendencies. In some of the agencies and sub-agencies, however, it is thought that the travelling and other incidental expenses are unnecessarily large. The accounts for such expenditures are always the most difficult to understand and settle satisfactorily; and, on any inquiry, after settlement, into the necessity and propriety of such allowances, are the most difficult to explain. Hence, they should always be accompanied by the most satisfactory evidence and explanations, showing the objects or reasons of the expenditures or charges, and that they were necessary and proper. And in order to ensure proper economy, and to aid the Department in the correct adjustment of such accounts, the superintendents will exercise a strict supervision over expenditures or charges of this character. They will satisfy themselves in all cases, of their necessity or propriety; and, where it may be practicable, they may require the agents and sub-agents to consult them beforehand, and obtain their sanction to their being incurred. They will rigidly scrutinize the accounts and vouchers before transmitting them to this office, and, in all cases where they are not satisfied of the propriety of an expenditure or a charge, they will so notify the office, in order that the item may be rejected or suspended for further explanation by the agent or sub-agent, as the case may be. The Department is determined to reject and disallow every item where it is not made to appear, in the most satisfactory manner, that the charge or expenditure was necessary or in every way proper.

W. MEDILL.

G.

STATEMENT

EXHIBITING THE

AMOUNT OF INVESTMENTS FOR INDIAN ACCOUNT

IN STATE STOCKS, &c.

G.

Statement exhibiting the amount of investments for Indian account in State Stocks, &c.

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.	Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted for application.	Treaties on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
Cherokees	Kentucky	5	$94,000 00		$4,700 00		$94,000 00		Semi-ann'ly	New York	Treasury, U. S.	Treaty, Dec., 1835
Do	Tennessee	5	250,000 00		12,500 00		250,000 00		do	do	do	do do
Do	Alabama	5	300,000 00		15,000 00		300,000 00		do	do	do	do do
Do	Maryland	6	761 39		45 68		880 00		Quarterly	Baltimore	do	do do
Do	Michigan	6	64,000 00		3,840 00		69,120 00		Semi ann'ly	New York	do	do do
Do	Maryland	5	41,138 00		2,056 90		42,490 00		Quarterly	Baltimore	do	do do
Do	Missouri	5½	10,000 00		550 00		10,000 00		Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	Treaty, Feb. 27, 1819
				$759,899 39		$38,692 58		$766,490 00				
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pott's. (mills)	Maryland	6	130,850 43		7,851 02		150,000 00		Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty, Sept., 1833
Do....do	Pennsylvania	5	28,300 00		1,415 00		24,259 50		Semi-ann'ly	Philadelphia	do	do do
Do....do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	39,921 93		2,395 31		44,204 40		do	Washington	do	do do
Do....do	U. S. loan, 1843	5	157 60		7 88		156 00		do	do	do	do do
				199,229 96		11,669 21		218,619 90				
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pott's. (education)	Indiana	5	68,000 00		3,400 00		72,264 09		do	New York	do	do do
Do....do	Pennsylvania	5	8,500 00		425 00		7,352 50		do	Philadelphia	do	do do
Do....do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	5,556 71		333 40		6,016 05		do	Washington	do	do do
				82,056 71		4,158 40		85,632 64				
Incompetent Chickasaws	Indiana	5	....	2,000 00	....	100 00	....	2,000 00	do	New York	do	Treaty, May, 1834
Chickasaw orphans	Arkansas	5	3,000 00		150 00		3,000 00		do	do	do	do do
Do....do	Pennsylvania	5	1,050 00		52 50		908 25		do	Philadelphia	do	do do
Do....do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	433 68		26 02		508 01		do	Washington	do	do do
				4,483 68		228 52		4,416 26				
Shawnees	Maryland	6	29,341 50		1,760 49		33,912 40		Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty, August, 1831
Do	Kentucky	5	1,000 00		50 00		980 00		Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	do do
Do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	1,734 71		104 08		2,032 03			Washington	do	do do
				32,076 21		1,914 59		36,924 43				
Senecas	Kentucky	5	....	5,000 00	....	250 00	....	4,900 00	do	New York	do	Treaty, Feb., 1831
Senecas and Shawnees	Kentucky	5	6,000 00		300 00		5,880 00		do	do	do	do do
Do....do	Missouri	5½	7,000 00		385 00		7,121 87		do	do	do	do do
				13,000 00		685 00		13,001 87				
Kanzas, (schools)	Missouri	5½	18,000 00		990 00		18,000 00		do	do	do	Treaty, June, 1825
Do....do	Pennsylvania	5	2,000 00		100 00		1,730 00		do	Philadelphia	do	do do
Do....do	U. S. loan, 1843	5	2,700 00		135 00		2,727 27		do	Washington	do	do do
Do....do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	4,444 66		266 67		5,026 30		do	do	do	do do
				27,144 66		1,491 67		27,483 57				
Menomonies	Kentucky	5	77,000 00		3,850 00		75,460 00		do	New York	do	Treaty, Sept., 1836
Do	Pennsylvania	5	12,000 00		600 00		10,235 00		do	Philadelphia	do	do do
Do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	26,114 88		1,566 89		29,604 48		do	Washington	do	do do
Do	U. S. loan, 1847	6	12,900 00		774 00		13,480 50		do	do	do	do do
				128,014 88		6,790 89		128,779 98				
Chippewas & Ottowas	Kentucky	5	77,000 00		3,850 00		75,460 00		do	New York	do	Treaty, March, 1836
Do....do	Michigan	6	3,000 00		180 00		3,000 00		do	do	do	do do
Do....do	Pennsylvania	5	16,200 00		810 00		13,912 50		do	Philadelphia	do	do do
Do....do	U. S. loan, 1843	5	5,387 87		269 39		5,426 46		do	Washington	do	do do
Do....do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	16,588 97		995 34		18,183 30		do	do	do	do do
Do....do	U. S. loan, 1847	6	1,900 00		114 00		1,985 50		do	do	do	do do
				120,076 84		6,128 73		117,967 76				

G—Continued.

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.	Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted for application.	Treaties on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
Creek orphans	Alabama	5	$82,000 00		$4,100 00		$82,000 00		Semi-ann'ly	New York	Treasury, U. S.	Treaty, June, 1832
Do	Missouri	5½	28,000 00		1,540 00		28,487 48		do	do	do	do do
Do	Pennsylvania	5	16,000 00		800 00		13,840 00		do	Philadelphia	do	do do
Do	U. S. loan, 1843	5	13,700 00		685 00		13,840 00		do	Washington	do	do do
Do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	23,513 40		1,410 80		26,656 04					
				$163,213 40		8,535 80		$164,823 52				
Choctaws, under convention with the Chickasaws	Alabama	5		500,000 00		25,000 00		500,000 00	do	N. Orleans	do	Treaty, Jan. 17, 1837
Delawares, (education)	U. S. loan, 1842	6		7,806 28		468 38		9,114 27	do	Washington	do	Treaty, 1838.
Osages, (education)	U. S. loan, 1843	5	7,400 00		370 00		7,474 74		do	do	do	Treaty, 1825.
Do	U. S. loan, 1842	6	24,679 56		1,480 77		27,656 76					
				32,079 56		1,850 77		35,131 50				
Choctaw orphans	U. S. loan, 1842	6	26,387 44		1,583 24		30,461 70		do	do	do	Treaty, Sept. 1830
Do	U. S. loan, 1843	5	23,109 09		1,155 45		23,312 16		do	do	do	do do
Do	U. S. loan, 1847	6	6,200 00		372 00		6,479 00		do	do	do	do do
				55,696 53		3,110 69		60,252 86				
Stockbridge and Munsees	U. S. loan, 1842	6		5,204 16		312 25		6,096 16	do	do	do	Treaty, May, 1840.
Choctaws, (education)	U. S. loan, 1842	6	60,893 62		3,653 61		68,236 73		do	do	do	Treaty Sept. 1830.
Do	U. S. loan, 1843	5	1,545 44		77 27		1,530 00		do	do	do	do do
Do	U. S. loan, 1847	6	9,550 00		573 00		9,979 75		do	do	do	do do
				71,989 06		4,303 88		79,746 48				
				2,208,971 32		115,781 34		2.261,411 20				

NOTE.—The States of Maryland and Pennsylvania retain an annual State tax out of the interest as above set forth, under acts of assembly.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *Office Indian Affairs, September* 30, 1848.

H.

Statement exhibiting the annual interest appropriated by Congress to pay the following tribes of Indians, in lieu of investing the sum of money provided by treaties and laws in stocks.

Names of tribes.	Amount provided by treaty for investment.	Rate per cent.	Amount of interest annually appropriated.	Authority by which made.
Delawares	$46,080 00	5	$2,304 00	Treaty, September 29, 1829.
Chippewas and Ottowas	200,000 00	6	12,000 00	Resolution of Senate, May 27, 1836.
Sioux of Mississippi	300,000 00	5	15,000 00	Treaty, September 29, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri	175,400 00	5	8,770 00	Treaty, October 21, 1837.
Winnebagoes	1,185,000 00	5	59,250 00	Treaties, November 1, 1837, and October 13, 1846.
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi	1,000,000 00	5	50,000 00	Treaties, October 21, 1837, and October 11, 1842.
Iowas	157,500 00	5	7,875 00	Resolution of the Senate, January 19, 1838.
Osages	69,120 00	5	3,456 00	do do do.
Creeks	350,000 00	5	17,500 00	Treaty, November 23, 1838.
Senecas of New York	75,000 00	5	3,750 00	Treaty, May 20, 1842, and law of Congress, June 27, 1846.
Kanzas	200,000 00	5	10,000 00	Treaty, January 14, 1846.
Pottawatomies	643,000 00	5	32,150 00	Treaty, June 5, 1846.
Choctaws	872,000 00	5	43,600 00	Treaty, September 27, 1830, and laws of 1842 and 1845.
	$5,273,100 00		$265,655 00	

WAR DEPARTMENT, *Office Indian Affairs, September* 30, 1848.

I.

Agreeably to your request, I send your a brief statement of the condition, progress, and prospects of the five Indian youths committed to my care.

Three young men, Lycurgus Pitchlym, Leonidas Garland, and William Howell, arrived at Newark, Delaware, on the 27th of April. On the arrival of the fourth, Allen Wright, who was detained a few days at Washington by illness, they all immediately commenced their studies. Being found on examination deficient in the requisite preparation for the freshman class in this institution, they were put upon a course of private study, to qualify them for admission the following September term. Though for a long time previously unused to study, and their habits of application necessarily interrupted, I was as much surprised as gratified to witness the cheerful alacrity and zeal, with which they commenced their labors and continued them, with unabated ardor and success, through summer term, and the long subsequent vacation, to within two weeks of the fall session. They then entered very creditably, and ever since that time have fully maintained their standing; manifesting mental capacity, industry, and self-denying application, fully equal to any of their associates. Their improvement, consequently, has been steady and rapid. In docility of disposition and morality, their conduct has been worthy of approval, even in a high degree exemplary.

Of the other Choctaw youth, who arrived only yesterday, Joseph Hall, I can merely state that he has been examined, and has entered on his studies with a view of making good all deficiencies, and joining, if possible, the present freshman class.

The young Chickasaw, Frederick McCalla, is at present in our preparatory department, under the care of the Rev. Mr. Meigs, and is doing well.

JAMES P. WILSON,
President of Delaware College.

Colonel Wm. Medill,
Office of Indian Affairs.

No. 1.

Office Superintendent Indian Affairs,
St. Louis, October 4, 1848.

Sir: In making my annual report of the condition of the Indians of this superintendency, for the present year, I regret that it is not in my power to state that their general improvement has been, in all respects, commensurate with the efforts made by the government and religious societies for that purpose, although equal, perhaps, to the expectations of those familiar with the many embarrassments which are met with at every step by the persons engaged

in those laudable endeavors. I think it probable, too, that we are apt to expect much more rapid improvement from our efforts on behalf of the Indian than a calm consideration of surrounding circumstances will justify. To reclaim men from barbarous customs which long habit has made a second nature, and to which they are attached by the superstitions of their tribe, must be a work of time, patience, and long and well directed effort; especially when we take into account the number of white men amongst them whose interest it is to confirm them in their savage habits and to excite their prejudices against all moral improvement.

The opinion advanced in my first annual report, (1844,) namely: that the improvement of the Indians can be best effected by education in habits of industry, letters, and the Christian religion, through the medium of manual labor schools conducted by missionary societies, has undergone no change. I am persuaded that just in proportion to the extension of these schools, and the ability and fidelity with which they are conducted, will be the general improvement of the Indians. That they are susceptible of such improvement, every candid man, unbiassed by prejudice and conversant with them, will admit; and, notwithstanding the frequent parade in some of the public journals of Indian atrocities, which, by the way, are generally exaggerated, I am of the opinion that, if we recur to the daily record of crime exhibited by these same journals, and the various shades of depravity developed by our criminal courts, the Indian population will bear a favorable comparison with many of those calling themselves civilized.

The Shawnees have several flourishing manual labor schools in their country, one conducted by the Methodists, in which are educated a number of Delawares, and youths of different tribes; another conducted by the society of Friends, or "Quakers;" and a small school under the direction of the Baptist Mission; the good effects of these schools are plainly to be seen by all persons who pass through their country. A school has been established among the Piankeshaws and Weas, by the Western Baptist Missionary Society, under the direction of the Rev. David Lykins; it is in successful operation, and has the confidence of the Piankeshaws in a high degree, on whom I think it has exerted a very salutary moral influence. The amount which you have allowed to this school out of the civilization fund ($300) will doubtless be of great benefit, as well as an encouragement to the Indians. It is intended to establish a boarding school among the Ottowas; I cannot say when it will go into operation; they have made a small appropriation from their annuity, and are highly pleased with the sum ($300) you have allowed to be expended for their school, out of the civilization fund. The Ottowas—those, especially, who have embraced the Christian religion—are steadily advancing in civilization, for which they are greatly indebted to their most excellent missionaries, the Reverend Mr. Meeker and his lady.

The school improvements for the Miamies, in charge of the Catholic society, have been in progress for some time; it is expected the school will go into operation this fall. The schools on Sugar

creek (Osage river) in Charge of the Catholics, have been discontinued in consequence of the emigration of the Pottawatomies. I have authorized the two misionary societies among them to board and educate as many children as their situation will permit, until the contemplated manual labor schools shall be in operation. A contract has been made with the Catholics, and another will be concluded in a few days with the Baptist society, for the manual labor schools to be hereafter conducted by each of those societies among the Pottawatomies; it is hoped that these schools will go into operation as early the next year as the magnitude of the improvements about to be made will admit. The Pottawatomies made a considerable advance in civilization while on Sugar creek, and it is expected that with their very ample means, and the aid of their zealous missionaries, their improvement will be rapid.

There was a school, a few years ago, among the Kanzas Indians, but which was suspended in consequence of their emigration; a contract has recently been entered into with the Methodist Episcopal church south, for establishing a manual labor school among them, which is expected to go into operation some time next spring; they are very anxious for a school.

The Sacs and Foxes (late of the Mississippi) are the only Indians within this superintendency known to me, who are opposed to schools; how far their prejudices may relax by the death of their principal chief, Keokuk, who made no concealment of his opposition to schools, time can only determine.

The Wyandot education fund, as you are aware, is applied under the direction of their own nation, and from the talent, mental improvement and energy of character of the men composing the councils of that nation, you may be assured of its judicious application.

The Presbyterian school among the Iowas and Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, under the superintendence of the Rev. Mr. Irvin, has extensive and valuable improvements, and I am gratified to learn that the zeal and industry of its conductors are enabling them to overcome many of the embarrassments that heretofore beset them, and that the school now promises to be of great utility. The same society has established a school near Bellevue for the education of the Ottoes and Omahas, under the direction of the Rev. Mr. McKinney, a gentleman of experience in directing such enterprises. All attempts at improvement in the Pawnee country have been suspended for the last year, in consequence of the destruction of their property by a large party of Sioux. The missionaries and teachers were driven in from the Pawnee country in the summer of 1846 by the hostile advances of the Sioux; since that time a small school has been taught at Bellevue, near the Council Bluffs agency. This school has been kept up mainly to serve as a nucleus for future operations, and keep alive the interest of the Pawnees in education. As a military post is about to be established in their vicinity, it is hoped that the government will hereafter be able to give the Pawnees effective protection against their enemies: if so, I am assured that a portion of their missionary friends will return

to them, when the moneys yet remaining to their credit may be advantageously expended for them. I am satisfied, from personal observation as well as information derived from others, that if the Pawnees and their missionaries could be fully assured of protection in their country, they would speedily improve in civilization, as they are habitually sober, and the men disposed to labor.

I learn that the Indians on the Upper Missouri have expressed a great desire to have schools and missionaries among them. The Rev. Mr. De Smet, of the Catholic church, is now on a visit to the Sioux; his plan is, if he can carry it out, to introduce among them a number of clergymen, in order, as far as practicable, to travel with them in their hunts, and exercise among them their ministerial functions. Taking into view the admitted influence of Catholic clergymen (black-gowns, as the Indians call them) over the Indians, such a course would have a most salutary effect in curbing and holding in check the untamed spirits of these wild Indians. Rev. Mr. De Smet is the great missionary pioneer of the Rocky Mountains; his high character, energy, and devotion to the improvement of the red man, should strongly recommend himself and his plans to the favorable consideration of the government. In the spring he intends establishing a mission among the Blackfeet Indians.

In my late visit to the Sioux of St. Peter's in July last, I had an opportunity of presenting to them the views of the government in relation to their improvement by manual labor schools; they seemed very little inclined to any extension of education among them, the absorbing subject being the possession of the $5,000 fund, under their treaty of 1837, which is to be expended at the direction of the President; they are taught to believe that, were they to consent to an extension of schools among them, they would stand no chance of having this fund paid to them. I said all in my power to convince them that the President could not consent to its expenditure in any other way than for the education of their children. I trust that your late letter, addressed to their chiefs, will satisfy them as to the determination of the government upon this matter. I found among them a school taught by a Mr. Cook, who had been employed by their worthy and devoted missionary, Dr. Williamson. Under the authority of your letter of the 29th of June last, I appointed Mr. Cook a teacher, and authorized Dr. Williamson to appoint another for a band some distance below the school of Mr. Cook, whose chief came to me privately and requested a teacher, he being afraid to make the request in council. I was gratified to find that one of their principal chiefs has been for some time applying himself to learn to read and write; this is a favorable sign, and I hope will have a happy influence upon others. Taking into consideration the scattered condition of these tribes, and their antipathy to schools, I do not think it would be judicious at *this* time to press upon them manual labor establishments; the schools now among them will, I trust, in time remove their prejudices and gradually prepare them to receive manual labor ones. The various bands of what are called the St. Peter's Sioux are scattered over an immense tract of country; if I am not mistaken, the upper band

is some 150 miles distant from the lower; it is therefore impossible for the agent to give much attention to them, and from the same cause the efforts of the government for their improvement do not produce the results anticipated; add to this, their exposure to the evil influences of white settlements for more than one hundred miles with no other barrier between them than the Mississippi river; it would greatly benefit them, if their lands were purchasesd as high up as as the mouth of the St. Peter's river, and themselves removed above that point.

I would here call your attention to the tract of land reserved by the Sioux for their half-breed relatives under the treaty of the 15th July, 1830. This land joins the State of Iowa; it is said to be valuable, and could be purchased at a very reasonable price; the half-breeds do not reside on it, and it is of no advantage to any one. The intention of both the nation and the government in thus providing for the half-breeds will be defeated, unless government purchase the tract. It is entirely too large for their use, and unless some action is taken in the matter it must continue to remain a waste. If it be deemed inexpedient to purchase it, I would recommend that the necessary steps be taken to ascertain the claimants, and to make a division of the land among them; otherwise it may at some future day be a source of embarrassment to the government, as it is at present an impediment to the settlement of the country. The tract of land between the two Nemahas, reserved under the same treaty for the half-breeds of the Yancton Sioux, Iowas, Ottoes and Omahas, should be either purchased or surveyed and assigned to the proper claimants; if it be not attended to in time, it will not fail to produce difficulty, should that section of country be ever opened for settlement.

The Pottawatomies who, at the date of my annual report of last year, had not emigrated, have since moved to their new homes, without causing the slightest embarrassment to the government; they deserve much credit for their promptness, especially as the entire emigration was effected within the time limited by the treaty for their removal. They are pleased, and justly so, with their new homes, and I am gratified to be able to inform you that they are now living in fraternal amity, after having lived in separate bands for so many years. After their schools, mills, &c., get into successful operation, I have little doubt but that their brethren in the north will join them.

It is to be regretted that the emigration of the Winnebagoes has not been more successful; not more, probably, than one half of the nation had arrived in their new country, up to the middle of last month. Their indefatigable agent, General Fletcher, doubtless did all in his power to effect their speedy and peaceable removal; and when he fairly supposed that everything was ready for a successful start, he was arrested by difficulties which were not foreseen, and which, with all his energy of character, aided by the company of volunteers from Camp Atkinson, he could not control. With the assistance, however, of the volunteers, and a part of Captain Eastman's company from Fort Snelling, he succeeded in getting

something less than one-half of them to their new homes; the remainder are scattered through the country—some in Iowa, some in Wisconsin, and some as far south as the Missouri river. It was found to be impracticable for the military to collect the stragglers, especially in so unfavorable a month as July; hence, all efforts on their part, for that purpose, have been discontinued since the 15th of that month. It is hoped that their large annuities, and the fine country selected for their residence, will do more towards inducing them to remove there than any other means that could be used. General Fletcher has despatched several of their influential men in quest of the scattered parties, in order to induce them to remove immediately, and to remove their prejudices against their country; and Agent Miller, at the Council Bluffs, has been instructed to do all in his power to induce those who have recently joined the Ottoes and Omahas to move to their new country forthwith.

Since my last annual report, but few attacks have been made upon citizens of the United States by the Indians of this suprintendency. I recollect at this time but one; that of the Sioux upon the steamboat *Martha*, loaded with the goods of P. Chouteau, jr., & Co., on her trip up the Missouri river last summer, in which one white man was killed. Agent Matlock, who was on board at the time, succeeded in pacifying the Indians and restoring quiet; his report of the investigation of the causes of this outrage, made at the time, has been already forwarded to you; he has been instructed to collect, in the country of the Sioux, what further information he can, with regard to the circumstances which led to the attack; when his report comes to had, it will be made the subject of a special communication.

There have been fewer robberies committed by Indians upon our citizens on the route to Santa Fé, during the present year, than the two previous ones; it is certainly highly important that citizens passing from one portion of our country to another, for the purposes of commerce or settlement, should have efficient protection; and, for this purpose, I cannot too strongly recommend the views advanced by Agent Fitzpatrick, which have been communicated to you at different times through this office. Major Fitzpatrick's experience and frequent intercourse with the troops on the plains, together with his close observation, directed by a strong discriminating mind, entitle his opinions upon subjects of this kind to great weight.

War parties of one tribe against another have been much less frequent, especially among our border Indians, than heretofore. One occurrence, however, of the kind has taken place, that requires a special notice, namely: the attack made by a large party of Iowas, headed by their principal chief, *White Cloud*, last spring, upon a defenceless party of Pawnees, on their return home from the Council Bluffs agency, whither they had been for a supply of corn to save them from starving. The atrocity of this act is aggravated by the fact that the principal part of those killed were women and children. The Iowa sub-agent has been instructed to pay them no part of their annuity until they shall have made am-

ple reparation to the Pawnees. A similar outrage was committed last year, by the same Indians, upon a party of Omahas. In order to repress, in future, such wanton attacks, the leaders of the Iowa party should be *personally* punished in an exemplary manner.

The law of Congress passed on the 4th of March, 1847, more effectually to prevent the introduction of spirituous liquors into the Indian country, has not answered the purpose to the extent expected, as the Indians frequently succeed in smuggling in large quantities, which they procure in the State; the existing laws of the State of Missouri on the subject of selling to Indians are so inefficient that it is difficult to convict the seller, or to punish him effectually if convicted. Under these circumstances, it has occurred to me that a few prosecutions of Indians, found in the act of introducing spirituous liquors, would have a happy effect. Should the State of Missouri amend its own law on the subject of selling to Indians, it would go far to abate the evil; at present, Indians find no difficulty in purchasing as much whiskey as they have means to pay for in this State.

Much, it appears to me, might be done by the executive towards the suppression of this vice of drinking by the adoption of a regulation requiring officers commanding posts on the Indian frontiers to arrest all Indians found intoxicated or engaged in introducing whiskey into their country; to confine them for a short time for the first offence; to put them to hard labor, for a given period, for the second offence; and for the third offence to turn them over for prosecution, under the law of 1847. This mode of punishment, it is believed by many persons long acquainted with Indians, would be very successful.

In July last I addressed a letter to Captain Eastman, commanding at Fort Snelling, requesting his opinion as to the most efficient course to be pursued to suppress the introduction of whiskey into the Indian country; his letter, in reply, is herewith enclosed, (marked A,) from which you will perceive that I have adopted his views, with a slight exception. Captain Eastman has been long stationed at St. Peter's, and has had an opportunity of seeing much of the evil effects produced by the use of whiskey among the Indians; he has succeeded in capturing and destroying large quantities of liquor during the time he has been stationed there, and has acquired great experience in Indian affairs. From his uniformly kind and courteous treatment of the Sioux he has their confidence in a high degree. I cannot too strongly urge the adoption of Captain Eastman's plan; I feel confident it would effect much good. Such authority might with great safety be confided to officers commanding frontier posts. I have, without exception, found all the officers at our western posts, with whom I have had any intercourse, kind to the Indians, and zealous in carrying out the views of the Department.

The immense travelling of emigrant companies over the prairies, and the consequent increased destruction of the buffalo, has excited the anxiety of several of the western tribes for some years past. It cannot be disguised that the destruction of the buffalo by

the whites is far greater than by the Indians—the Indians viewing them as their means of subsistence, and never killing them except for the consumption of the flesh; whereas the whites often kill them for the tongues only, and, as it is reported, frequently for pastime. The country occupied by the buffalo is gradually and rapidly being circumscribed, which shows their great diminution. The time cannot be distant, when they will be insufficient to subsist the numerous tribes that now depend upon them for food. As that period approaches we may expect bloody conflicts, if not wars of extermination; the half starved bands will follow the buffalo into the lands of other tribes; the one pursuing their only support of life, the other protecting it against them, must necessarily lead to deadly strife. Many of the tribes that subsist upon the buffalo have no lands that will afford them an agricultural subsistence; and hence I would respectfully suggest that humanity to the Indians, as well as protection to our citizens on the plains, would require that the government should take timely measures for procuring and setting apart a tract of land on the south of the Missouri river, for the purpose of locating hereafter such of the prairie tribes as have not lands of their own suitable for agriculture; lands for this purpose could be procured from the Poncas and Omahas at a small cost. I had the honor some years ago of advancing similar views in a letter to your Department; and I find them strongly advocated by the Rev. Mr. De Smet, (to whom I have alluded in a former part of this report,) in his "Oregon Missions," as follows, page 334: "Allow me the reflection, the ultimate fate of these fierce and lonely tribes is fixed at no distant date, unless looked to in time. What will become of them? The buffalo field is becoming narrower from year to year, and each succeeding hunt finds the Indians in closer contact. It is highly probable that the Blackfeet plains, from the Sus-cats-haw-in to the Yellow Stone, will be the last resort of the wild animals twelve years hence. Will there be sufficient to feed and clothe the hundred thousand inhabitants of these western wilds? The Crees, Blackfeet, Assinaboins, Crows, Snakes, Rickarees and Sioux, will then come together and fight their bloody battles on the plains, and become themselves extinct over the last buffalo steak. Let those who have the power and the means look to it in time. Let some effort be made to rescue them from the threatened destruction, lest, by guilty negligence, the last drop of aborigineous blood indelibly stain the fair fame of the spread eagle, under whose protecting wing they are said to live. Justice makes the appeal." The foregoing are so apposite to my own opinions, and so beautifully and forcibly expressed by one practically familiar with the subject he was writing about, that I thought their insertion in this report would not be inappropriate.

The regulations of last November, in regard to the issuing of licenses to traders, which require that the person soliciting a license shall make his application in writing, furnish his bond, invoice, and testimonials of character, and that the license, accompanied by these documents, shall be forwarded to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for approval or otherwise, are calculated to insure

uniformity and a due observance of law, and, at the same time, to prevent improper persons from getting into the Indian country through the sanction of the government; it is certainly strange that the law of 1834, requiring the action of the Commissioner on licenses, should have been so long overlooked.

The system of semi-annual payments, adopted by you this year, is of such manifest benefit to the Indians, (excepting small annuitants,) in enabling them to procure their supplies at fair prices in the spring and fall, that it stands in no need of commendation from me. A few persons, it is true, object to it on account of its increasing the business of the agent. I know no agency in this superintendency where the payments could not be made quarterly, if required, without devolving any *excessive* labor upon the agent; I speak advisedly on this subject; last spring, owing to the absence of the agent of the Osage river agency, who resigned in consequence of *ill health*, I made the payment in twelve days to seven different tribes; travelled over 160 miles; paid the different employees of the government; held councils with nearly all the tribes of the agency, in some of which important business was transacted, and during the whole time was laboring under great debility; and this is one of the largest agencies in this superintendency.

The contingent expenses of this superintendency have been greatly reduced within the last four years, especially in the item of transportation of annuity goods and provisions; but should the government continue to pay the transportation of the Winnebago provisions, *they* will, in future, be greatly increased. I know of no treaty stipulation or law that requires the transportation of the provisions for those Indians to be paid by the government. They are now large annuitants, have moved to a productive country, where they can, with ordinary industry, raise their own provisions, and it would be doing them a service could their annuity be so reduced as to make them rely more on their own labor. I would respectfully recommend that in future their provisions should be contracted for to be delivered in their own country, so as to relieve the government from the expense of their transportation.

The several tribes west of the Missouri, of which I am more particularly advised, have enjoyed this year fine health, and the agricultural portion of them raised abundant crops; they were never more kindly disposed towards the whites; and from all the information I have been able to collect, both from personal observation and the reports of others, their confidence in, and respect for, the government have increased very perceptibly of late.

The numerous traders west of the Missouri have, since my last annual report, conducted themselves with propriety, so far as I can learn, and thrown no embarrassments in the way of the government officers in the discharge of their duties; and it gives me pleasure to add that the agents and sub agents, without exception, have performed their duties with zeal and activity.

I should do injustice to my own feelings and sense of justice, were I to close this report without expressing my opinion of the many salutary measures adopted by you in relation to our Indian

affairs. These, carried out with firmness and decision, as they have been, have produced the most favorable results; and should your policy be continued but a few years longer, it will so advance the moral, intellectual, and physical condition of the Indians, and so elevate the Indian service, that the effects will remain even should a different policy be hereafter pursued.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

TH. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. W. Medill,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 1—A.

Fort Snelling, I. T., *August* 6, 1848.

Sir: I have just received your letter of the 26th ultimo, requesting me to recommend such means as will effectually stop the Indians from smuggling ardent spirits into their country.

As the white man who sells whiskey to the Indians cannot be reached by the present laws, some means should be taken to prevent the Indians from drinking or purchasing it, and this can be done only by summary punishment. By activity and vigilance, the troops at this post may capture a large quantity of whiskey from the Indians; but this does not prevent the latter from going directly back to the whiskey shops and purchasing more. Now, to make the efforts of the troops more effectual and perhaps break altogether the whiskey trade on the St. Peter's, I respectfully recommend that authority be given to the commanding officer to punish the Indian every time he is caught drunk, or with ardent spirits in his possession. This punishment to be hard labor under the charge of the guard; say twenty days for the first offence, and forty for the second. Should the Indian, after having received the second degree of punishment, still persist in violating the law, then leave it discretionary with the commanding officer to punish him as he thinks best. I do not believe any Indian would attempt to violate the law after having undergone the first punishment.

It is my belief, and also of those who have resided a very long time in this country, that if this course of punishment be taken with the Indians, that it will be effectual and the whiskey trade be broken up.

It is of no use for the government to attempt to ameliorate the condition of the Indians, until this villainous whiskey traffic be entirely rooted out from the country.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. EASTMAN,
Captain 1st Infantry, Commanding Fort Snelling.

Maj. Thos. H. Harvey,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 2.

FORT LEAVENWORTH AGENCY,
26*th September*, 1848.

SIR: Pursuant to usage, and in obedience to the requirements of the Department, I have now the honor to lay before you my annual report of the affairs and condition of the various tribes of Indians located within the precints of this agency.

The tribes subject to my charge are the Kickapoos, Stockbridges, Delawares and Munsees, Christian Indians and Shawnees; to which must be added the united nation of Pottawatomies. The last named were placed under my care early last spring. The Kanzas Indians, who for so many years were subject to my supervision, have been, since my last annual report, attached to another district.

As regards the first named six tribes, I have but little to add to my last year's communication, in reference to their general good conduct, their peaceable and friendly dispositions, and their efforts in the progress of agriculture. Their evident desire to attain, as far as in them lies, the blessings and benefits of industrious and moral lives; their care of property, procured by their own labor and exertions, must be apparent to all acquainted with them; for certainly, when an Indian becomes a property holder he begins to appreciate the true worth of economy; he abandons, then, that listlessness and indifference which seems to be inherent to the uncultivated native.

In compliance with the circular issued by the honorable the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated May, 1847, I transmit, herewith, the census and statistics of the Kickapoos, Stockbridges, Delawares, Christian Indians and Shawnees. I must apologize for not furnishing them at an earlier date; the delay must be attributed to more pressing and important duties I was called upon to attend to. I hope, however, that even now they may serve the end required. Allow me to remark that I have taken great pains in collecting these statistics. I have valued the agricultural products at the market prices in this region; and here I am gratified in awarding my meed of praise to the Indians themselves, for the promptitude and willingness they evinced in giving in their various descriptions of property.

There were no questions asked as to the object or intention of the Department in desiring to ascertain their numbers and property; it was sufficient for them to know that it was the wish of their "*Great Father*" to learn their "*ways and means*," and, without a dissentient voice, they promptly came forward. I was much pleased, and I doubt whether a like quantity of "*whites*" would have been as willing to answer the call of the law as these simple-minded and primitive people.

A census and statistics of the Pottawatomies I have not been able to take; even if they had been taken, they would not fully have answered the purpose. These Indians have but recently emigrated to their new country; they have but few fields in cultivation, and are, moreover, not permanently settled as farmers. Some are still

living among the Kickapoos, whilst others, though not many, linger yet about their old haunts on the Osage river; as regards this tribe, whose interest and welfare you have had so much at heart, I shall speak more fully below.

The act of the 3d March, 1847, requiring the Indian department, under the direction of the Secretary of War, "to collect and digest such statistics and materials as may illustrate the present condition and future prospects of the Indian tribes," particularly the taking of a census, which was also the intention of the law, is worthy of commendation. The census and statistics now taken will form the basis of important knowledge as regards the industry and economy, the progress or decline of the various tribes. The ground work is now laid, and henceforth, say at intervals of four or five years, there can be no difficulty in arriving at true results; although the statistics which accompany this report will speak for themselves, I deem it not irrelevant to state the average fiscal means per capita of the following tribes, independent of the annuity they receive from government.

Kickapoos—average of agricultural products and hunts	$19 16	exclusive of annuity, which is	$14 41
Stockbridges......do	37 26	do	1 11
Christian Indians......do	22 76	do	3 03
Delawares......do	22 17	do	7 20
Shawnees......do	36 68	do	3 55

The number of persons as stated in the census will differ from the number called for in the annuity pay rolls. This is particularly the case with the Kickapoos; a considerable portion of the latter are not permanently settled as farmers, but rather lead an erratic life, being most of their time on Red river, and who only come to the north about payment time. These last named are, of course, not enumerated in the census. In the numbers of the other tribes the difference is not very material.

Of all the tribes on the border the Shawnees have made the greatest progress, and some of their farms will compare with many of the best within the State line; and in very many instances, they are superior both as regards management and culture. A few of the more opulent have negro slaves. The other tribes are likewise making laudable improvemeut.

You will observe by the statistics herewith, that almost every family is well supplied with farming stock; such as horses, oxen, milch cows, and other cattle, hogs and some sheep, and agricultural implements. They have raised abundance of corn, some wheat, potatoes, oats and garden vegetables; have made butter and cheese, and have cultivated fruit. Their hunts will appear of little or no moment. In fact, the "Indian hunter" has disappeared from among the border tribes, and the farmer has taken his place. All these Indians dwell in good log cabins, and some have extremely neat houses well furnished. They have their outhouses, stables, well fenced lots, and some have good barns. Indeed, a traveller passing through their country would fancy himself within the pale of the

"white settlements" were it not for the swarthy lineaments and strange language of the inhabitants.

The Stockbridge Indians, few in number, a very quiet, inoffensive and industrious people, are permitted by the Delawares to occupy a tract of country about six miles southeast of Fort Leavenworth.

The Christian Indians, are also located among the Delawares. As for the Munsees, they are now so amalgamated with their brethren (the Delawares) that they may be considered as a part of that nation.

You will please bear in mind that, with the exception of the Pottawatomies, the other tribes within this agency were not willing to receive their semi-annual payments last spring. They urged that the amount, per capita, would be so small that it would be of no service to them; and they requested me to keep the money until fall, and then give them the whole year's pay at once. As they were not suffering, but rather seemed well to do and contented, I acceded to their request. I am, however, decidedly of opinion that semi-annual payments are the most advantageous for Indians, and, no doubt, they will acknowledge this themselves whenever they can be brought to give them a fair trial.

Pottawatomies.—This large tribe, formerly divided into several distinct bands—each antagonistical to the other—each claiming interests denied by the others—the dire cause of jealousies and alienation—are, in virtue of their last favorable treaty, happily brought to assemble around one council fire, and to speak with one tongue. To your untiring exertions, and fatherly interest in the future welfare of this people, is this result mainly to be attributed. It affords me much pleasure to state that the last spring semi-payment, made in May, terminated in the most quiet and orderly manner. I had the satisfaction of seeing the two bands, viz: that from Council Bluffs and that from the Osage river, mingle with each other on the most friendly terms. I could discover no signs of a desire, by either party, to domineer or dictate. They sat promiscuously together, and exchanged their opinions with urbanity and good will. You will remember that, immediately before payment, and in your presence, the head man of the upper band, or Council Bluffs party, made an effort to revive those jealousies that have, for so many years, alienated the upper and the lower people. Your firmness and decision alone, and the just censure with which you met the scurrilous speech of the old chief, frustrated his unworthy design. It had a most beneficial effect, and, I am free to say, that there was not one Indian but was glad in his heart that this matter was put to rest so auspiciously.

Great attention was given in taking the pay-roll at the last spring payment. The united band numbers 3,235. I am informed that, in former years, the aggregate of the two bands, viz: that from Council Bluff, and that from the Osage river, amounted to upwards of 4,000. It would appear, then, that there is a material decrease in the united nation of Pottawatomies; but this is evidently not the case, for I have learned that, in former payments, particularly at Council Bluffs, the Indians were permitted to in-

clude in the pay-roll many of their relatives, who were non-residents—those who live in Wisconsin and Michigan, and who never emigrated. A decision was made to exclude non-residents, and the rule in future to be strictly adhered to; for these non-residents, were they even included in the roll, would never receive the benefits thereof, as their proxies have never been known to send them a dollar.

I am happy to state that the prejudices of the Pottawatomies, as regards their new homes, are fast disappearing. They begin to be convinced that it is a good country, with timber sufficient for all purposes. They cling with much tenacity to their pre-judgment of the land, and would have it, "nolens volens," a barren, timberless tract. They are, at last, compelled to admit that they were mistaken; and I hope they will not be slow, by a judicious cultivation of the soil, to prove the extreme fertility of some of the finest land of the west.

The Pottawatomies are a quick and lively race. A greater portion of the lower band (from the Osage) had, previous to their departure from their old homes, made considerable progress in farming. With the advantages secured to them by treaty, and the ample agricultural fund to which they are entitled, they may, coupled with exertions on their own part, become a thriving and prosperous people.

While on the subject of these Indians, I may as well allude to a rather untoward event which took place last summer—July. It seems that a small party of Pottawatomies, connected with the family of old Pai-dah-go-shuk, together with a like number of Kickapoos and Sacs, went on an excursion to the plains to kill buffalo. In the course of their journey westward, they fell in with the main body of the Kanzas Indians, who were then on the summer hunt, and camped in their vicinity. It happened that the Pawnees, roving that way, came upon the parties named, but probably ascertaining their numerical strength, were of necessity disposed to be friendly. The Pawnees despatched a messenger to the camps of the Pottawatomies, Kickapoos and Sacs, with assurances of friendship, and an invitation to smoke. The message was well received; but as the herald was returning, he was fired upon and killed by a young Kanzas Indian. The main body of the Pawnees, who were in sight, seeing the fate of their messenger, made an attack on the four camps; an engagement ensued, which resulted in the death of five Pawnees, whose scalps were brought in by the Pottawatomies and Kickapoos. I am inclined to think that blame, in this matter, ought not to be attached to the Pottawatomies or Kickapoos; that they fought in self-defence is evident. But it is in every way unfortunate, as it has led to reprisals, and may end in further bloodshed; for, since the above collision took place, the Pawnees have lifted forty horses from the Pottawatomie settlements on Kanzas river.

Information as regards the education of youth and the management of schools, will be found in the reports and schedules of the various missionary stations throughout this agency. These reports

and schedules not having all come in, will probably not accompany the one I am now transmitting; but when they shall have been collected they will be immediately laid before you, and that in a very short time. For the Pottawatomies, owing to their not being as yet permanently settled, no school report can be rendered; neither for the Kickapoos, the latter having no school amongst them. They are however very anxious to have a standing establishment for education in their settlement, and a short time back spoke to me favorably on the subject. I hope their wishes may be acceded to.

The blacksmiths among the Shawnees, Delawares and Pottawatomies, the other tribes within this agency not being entitled to smiths, have been employed in the making and repairing of agricultural implements and useful mechanical tools; and with one single exception, I have every reason to be satisfied with them.

Upon the whole, we may congratulate ourselves on the prosperous condition of the Indians of this agency. The health of the country has been good. No sickness of any consequence has prevailed, and crops of all descriptions are abundant. All these blessings call for fervent gratitude to the Giver of all good. Only one evil still remains: the addictedness of many of the Indians to the use of spirituous liquors. But this vicious propensity is, I am inclined to believe, gradually lessening; certainly, since the passage of the law of 3d March, 1847, less ardent spirits have been introduced into the Indian country by the natives themselves than formerly. The old men of the different tribes are active in suppressing the introduction of liquor. The Kickapoos and the Pottawatomies who reside with them, punish offenders of this stamp with stripes and public whippings. Occasional frolics and sprees will be taken by the young men in a mere spirit of bravado; but the practice is not general. There are more drunken Indians seen in the little border towns, within the State line, than in the Indian country proper.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

RICH. W. CUMMINS,
Indian Agent.

Major THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 2—A.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Department, I respectfully submit the following report of the condition of the school under my charge for the quarter ending September 30th, 1848.

The number of Delaware children for this quarter is thirty-one, fifteen males and sixteen females; of other tribes fifty-four, thirty-one males and twenty-three females; total number this quarter, eighty-five. They have been engaged as usual, in the schools a part of the time, and the other part at work. But as we had our summer vacation in the month of August, and the most of them

were absent for four weeks, they have not made as great proficiency as in some other quarters. Though they have now returned, and we are expecting a more regular and perhaps a fuller school through the winter.

We have raised tolerably good crops. But as we have had no rains here of much duration for two years, our excellent springs are failing very fast; our meadows and pastures have suffered greatly, and we have been compelled to haul water to keep our steam mill running for two months past.

The health of the institution has been better than common for this season of the year.

I have the honor to be, dear sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS JOHNSON.

Superintendent F. L. Ind. M. L. school.

Hon. W. Medill,
Commissioner Indian Affairs,
Washington city, October 6, 1848.

No. 2—B.

Shawnee Baptist Mission School,
September 15, 1848.

Sir: In submitting my annual report of this mission station, allow me to say that no material change has taken place in our operations since the last year's report. The station, as then, continues under the patronage of the executive committee of the A. B. M. U., having its location in Boston, Mass.

Much perplexity attends the labor of elevating mind involved in the darkness of paganism. The encouragement to persevere is found in the necessity of the work, and in the obligations of the more enlightened to extend their sympathy to such portions of the human family as have enjoyed less privileges than themselves.

I am happy in adding my testimony to others, that the labors bestowed upon the tribes within your agency have been attended with a good degree of success. This is seen in the improvements made in the farms of the Indians—in the increasing energy and perseverance in labor among not a few—in the reformation of some who, among the many, have been addicted to habits of intemperance—and, what is not the least worthy of mentioning, in the religious observance of the Sabbath day.

Two of the scholars have left the school, and two others have been newly enrolled. As a general thing, it is found to be much easier for them to learn for sake of pleasing their teachers, than from desire of improvement; and hence they easily forget what they acquire. The most of the pupils have been regular in their attendance. During intermissions from study, they have been employed in manual labor—the males upon the farm, and the females in housewifery and needle-work. All of them, with the addition of other persons, have attended Sabbath school. Portions

of scripture and devotional hymns have been the subjects of recitation in the Sabbath school.

A new frame building, 28 by 40 feet, has been erected during the past year for the accommodation of the Sabbath services. Religious meetings during the week have been held at Indian houses in different neighborhoods.

Quite a laudable desire exists among the adult population, who do not understand the English language, to learn to read the translations in their own tongue.

Very respectfully submitted.

FRANCIS BARKER,
Superintendent, &c.

Major R. W. Cummins,
Fort Leavenworth agency.

No. 2—C.

Kansas River, Pottawatomie Country,
September 25, 1848.

Sir: Permit me to report the following, respecting the Baptist mission school among the Pottawatomies.

This school, taught by me, and relinquished last fall, on the removal of this tribe to their new home on Kansas river, was there resumed the 20th of last March. A session of five months, ending August 20th, was taught.

Owing to the limited means and accommodations, the number of pupils was restricted to sixteen boarders, eleven of whom were girls, from the ages of five to fourteen years; five boys, from six to twelve years old; all Pottawatomies, except one, a full blooded white, the step-daughter of a Pottawatomie man. At the expiration of the session, four of the scholars had advanced to reading, three to writing, and one to geography and arithmetic; the balance were variously advanced in spelling, from two letters to two syllables.

All made pleasing progress in study, while some evinced great, if not uncommon, readiness in the acquisition of knowledge.

In addition to ordinary studies, the children received Sabbath school and other religious instructions. They were also taught domestic duties, in connexion with sewing and needle work.

It is now designed to close the present vacation as early as possible, and again open the school in temporary buildings, until those for the large manual labor school, in contemplation, are erected, when we hope to enter upon more extended efforts.

Respectfully,

E. McCOY, *Teacher*

Major R. W. Cummins,
U. S. Indian agent.

No. 2—D.

DELAWARE BAPTIST MISSION,
September 27, 1848.

SIR: In compliance with instructions recently received at this station, the following summary notice of the boarding school located here, is forwarded by the earliest opportunity.

The school, under the direction of the American Baptist mission union, was re-opened on the first Monday in July.

* * * * * * *

The pupils, with a single exception, being under fourteen years of age, are not advanced beyond the first principles of an English education.

It being of primary importance that the foundation of an education be carefully laid, much attention has been given to reading and spelling; and we are gratified with the measure of success that has thus far attended the effort made.

In the several classes there has been, apparently, a desire to maintain a respectable standing, which influences to commendable application.

We see no reason to doubt the entire ability of any of the number to pass on to the higher and more abstruse branches of study with hope of pleasing success.

Out of school the girls receive attention in the varied duties which their position in life may require at their hands.

Respectfully,

E. S. MORSE, *Teacher.*
J. G. PRATT, *Superintendent.*

To Major R. W. CUMMINS,
Indian agent, Fort Leavenworth agency.

No. 2—E.

26th, 9th month, 1848.

FRIEND CUMMINS: The following is the report of the school during the past year.

There has been in attendance, during the past year, including regular and irregular scholars, 33 boys, and 35 girls.

* * * * * * *

The children's capacities for learning are are about like white children, notwithstanding the disadvantage they have to labor under in not having as perfect knowledge of the English language as white children. It is truly astonishing to see the rapidity with which they acquire knowledge. The boys work on the farm part of the time, and soon learn how to do what they are set at. The girls spend a part of their time in doing house work, sewing, &c. Many of them do the sewing part of their own, and some of the clothes of the other children.

ELIZABETH HARVEY, *Sup't.*

No. 3.

Osage River Agency, *September* 7, 1848.

Sir: In compliance with the regulations of the Department, I have the honor to submit, through you, my annual report, giving as near as possible the condition of the various tribes of Indians within this agency. The short time that I have had charge of affairs here, will be taken, I am sure, as an excuse for my not being familiar with all the minute affairs of this agency. I have devoted a considerable portion of the time I have been here to the Miamies, in consequence of difficulties that seemed to exist among these people. One of the principal causes of their dissatisfaction seems to arise out of the superintendent's intention to remove them from the place where they settled "near the State line," and locate them on the west side of their country, near the Weas, which I heartily concur with the superintendent should be done. It appears that these people are determined to extinguish, or at least to very much degrade themselves from their present unenviable condition, by drinking whiskey, which they obtain, without any difficulty and in great abundance, in the State, at little whiskey shops kept expressly for their use. To remove them to their new location, is getting them further from these dens kept for their destruction, as well as from the white men in the State, that appear to exercise an unlimited influence over them, and locate them in a better part of their country than where they now are. Over one-half of them have already removed, and appear to be well pleased with their exchange. Their smith shop, which is now in operation and doing all their work, their school, and all their traders, are located at their new village. I have refused to allow any trader to locate at any other point; and, if the government will now cause a good mill to be built at or near this point, as has been contemplated, I shall be able finally to succeed in getting them all to remove to this part of their land, although some of their chiefs say that they will never move. I have endeavored very hard to prevent these people from drinking so much. Their promises are very fair, but their acts are very different. While I can remain among them I can prevent them from drinking; but my agency being so large I cannot possibly devote any great portion of my time to any one tribe. Their school is not yet in operation, but the buildings are in progress, and will soon be ready for use.

The Ottowas I find to be almost entirely a sober people; very well disposed, industrious, and withal religious. They have among them a large quantity of stock of almost every description. They farm it to a considerable extent, and their crops at present are unusually good. They generally dispose of their surplus stock and produce to the Sac and Fox, and other tribes of Indians. They have no trader among them at present. These people have, it appears, been complaining for some time of depredations committed upon their property by the Sacs and Foxes. When I talked to the Sac and Fox chiefs about this, they admitted that some of their

young men might have done the Ottowas some damage, and they appeared anxious to have every difficulty settled. I then met both the Sacs and Foxes and Ottowas in council, and had no difficulty whatever in settling amicably to both parties all their difficulties, and restoring good feeling, which had to some extent been destroyed.

The Chippewas, a very small tribe, located between the Sacs and Foxes and Ottowas, talk of leaving their land here and going to Canada. Their chief has just returned from there, and tells his people he is having ample preparations made for them if they will go. I have advised them not to go, but to remain on their own land where they now are. They have a fine tract of land here, and are making good farms; and present at present a fair prospect of doing very well.

The Sacs and Foxes returned from their hunt in July, and reported a difficulty they had with the Pawnees.

It appears that they, with several other neighboring tribes, had met the Pawnees on the prairies, and were friendly, and while *Keokuk*, a Sac, was handing to a Pawnee the pipe of peace, a Kansas Indian that was in company fired and killed the Pawnee. The Pawnees, who were but a short distance off, seeing one of their men killed, immediately commenced the fight, and the Sacs and Foxes, as well as the other tribes, were forced to fight. They killed and scalped five of the Pawnees. No other Indians were killed, but several wounded. The Sacs and Foxes have gathered their crop and buried it, as they always do, and are now preparing to go out on their fall hunt, where they will remain until late in the winter. They have raised but little corn this year, but considerably more, I am told, than they did last year. Many of them say they wish to have a farm and raise more corn and vegetables. I have promised to have them farms made this winter, and afford them every encouragement in the noble enterprise. They have requested me to employ a doctor for them, which I have done, and he is now among them, giving general satisfaction, notwithstanding their prejudice to white doctors. These people have no school, and say plainly they do not wish one.

I visited the Kansas a few days since. They are about ninety miles from the agency. They are a very poor, degraded people—thievish, filthy, and unusually ignorant. They complain that they are only getting one-half of their money these times, although the persons who live among them, as well as myself, have explained the cause. I told them that they would now be paid twice a year in the place of once, but they cannot or will not understand it. They say they want the money just as they had it last year, or all that is due them for the year paid at the same time. These people are anxious for a farmer. They say they are going to work like their neighbors. They are also anxious for a missionary, and say they want their children to learn to read and write, and to work like white men, and not live, as they their parents are, like wolves. These people appear to be well aware of how far they are behind the other tribes in point of civilization. There are several other small tribes in this agency, not here named, but as there has nothing

come to my knowledge worthy of notice among them, I shall pass them by. The mechanics among all the tribes of this agency are supplying their Indians with every necessary kind of work, and giving general satisfaction.

Believing that it is the duty as well as the privilege of agents, sub-agents or superintendents to express their opinion respecting any law or regulation that may be made for the government of the Indian tribes, I beg your permission to say that, while there have been many issued that are highly commendable, and have and will meet the hearty approbation of every unprejudiced mind; among these, permit me to recommend, as foremost the regulation of April 13, 1847, prohibiting the introduction of spirituous liquors into the Indian country. Not only the Indians themselves, but the agents that have been among them, have felt and can see daily the happy effect that it has produced. But while I heartily approve of this, and many others which are unnecessary to be named here, there are a few that I cannot believe are consistent or will operate to the advantage of the government or Indians. The one I shall name first is the regulation of November 9, 1847, concerning the granting of licenses to trade with Indians. The 7th paragraph of said regulations provides that—

"When the agent, sub-agent, or superintendent shall have determined to grant a license, the same, duly executed, will, before being delivered, be transmitted to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for his approval or disapproval, and will be accompanied by the application and the testimonials in favor of the persons to be employed. In case any of the persons are so favorably known to the agent, sub-agent, or superintendent that he does not consider testimonials in their favor necessary, they may be dispensed with by his endorsing on the application accordingly."

This supposes one of two things—either that the agent, sub-agent, or superintendent, has not the ability to determine who are fit persons to conduct trade with Indians, or that they are deficient in disposition; neither of which appears to me to be reasonable suppositions; for, in the first place, I suppose that no man would be appointed agent, sub-agent, or superintendent who had not both the ability and disposition to judge of the fitness of persons to conduct trade in their agency, sub-agency, or superintendency; and in the next place, the agents, sub-agents, and superintendents are generally acquainted with the persons making applications to trade with Indians. If not, the persons so applying for license can produce testimonials from persons with whom they are acquainted; but in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred the Commissioner of Indian Affairs never heard of the persons making the applications, nor those from whom he gathers testimonials. The Commissioner therefor can know nothing of the matter except what the agent, sub-agent or superintendent informs him of. Then, if the Commissioner is to be governed by the agent's, sub-agent's, or superintendent's opinion, why, I ask, should it not be left with them at the start? There is no power given, in these regulations, to the agents or sub-agents to revoke a license. The 12th paragraph provides

that the superintendent may revoke a license, but all that the agents or sub-agents can do is to report the misconduct of a trader to the superintendent, who will take into *consideration the propriety*, as the *regulations* say, of revoking the license. Under these regulations, before the agent or sub-agent could report the misconduct of a trader to the superintendent, and the superintendent institute an investigation and determine the case, the trader would have plenty of time to effect any infamous scheme he chose. It places the trader as it were out of the reach of the agents or sub-agents; and, instead of this, in my humble opinion, the agents and sub-agents should have full control over the traders. In short, the regulations clearly express a lack of confidence in the agents and sub-agents, and for no reason that I am aware of, except, perhaps, some agent or other has been suspected of sinister motives in licensing the traders in his agency; and I do not think that all agents should be thought to be dishonest because one was found to be so. My doctrine is to appoint no man to that high and responsible office of Indian agent, where he has, perhaps, one or two hundred thousand dollars to disburse annually, whom you are afraid to allow to decide who are competent to conduct Indian trade.

In relation to semi-annual payments to Indians, I am clearly of the opinion it is attended with no good to the Indians. When I first heard of this plan of payment, I was much pleased with it, but since I have witnessed its effects I have altered my opinion. In the first place, many of the annuities, when divided, are too small to enable them to purchase such things as are of much benefit to them. In the next place, there is always considerable excitement produced among the Indians by their chiefs and traders, at and previous to each payment, which absorbs everything, and the oftener this comes the oftener we have interruptions, and the attention of the Indians diverted from their other pursuits for a living. Under the present arrangement, in many of the agencies, it gives to the agent more than he can perform, if he does his duty to the Indians and government. For instance, my agency is about one hundred and fifty miles long, from the Miamies to the Kanzas, embracing eight or nine different tribes, and some of them very large tribes, who receive a large and complicated amount of money, and having to make two payments each year in the place of one, the paying itself consumes the most of the time of the agents; consequently they have not the time necessary to spend among the different tribes at a time that is free from excitement, to exert his influence for good. My opinion is, that if you wish to have work well done, you must not give to your laborers too great a task. My predecessor, I am informed, resigned this agency because he thought the duties required were more than any one man could perform. I have not yet come to the conclusion that I cannot perform all the duties of this agency, yet I believe its duties are entirely too much for any one man. But if it is not the policy of the Department to reduce it, my utmost endeavors shall be exerted to perform every duty, for I have confidence in my own ability to do a great deal of hard work, such as has to be done in performing the duties of this

agency. In conclusion, I have to say that everything within the boundaries of this agency presents nothing but peace, harmony, and good will.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient humble servant,

JAMES S. RAINS,

U. S. Indian Agent for the Osage river agency.

Major THOS. H. HARVEY,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

NOTE.—The writer of this report, although he has certainly taken a very correct view of the qualifications which an agent should possess, does not seem to have made himself acquainted with the most common provisions of the law prescribing his own duties.

The 2d section of the "act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontier," approved June 30, 1834, provides that "no person shall be permitted to trade with any of the Indians (in the Indian country) without a license therefor from a superintendent of Indian affairs, or Indian agent, or sub-agent;"—that "the superintendent of the district shall have power to revoke and cancel the same whenever the person licensed shall, in *his* opinion, have transgressed any of the laws and regulations provided for the government of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, or that it would be improper to permit him to remain in the Indian country;" and that "it shall be the duty of the persons granting or revoking such licenses, *forthwith* to report the same to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for *his* approval or disapproval." Thus, it will be seen, that it is a law of Congress which requires the license to be approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and which limits the power of revoking it to the superintendents of districts, and not a mere regulation of the Department, as was supposed by the agent.

No one, it is presumed, will contend, that a measure which requires the *approval*, of a subsequent and higher power, is in force, or in any way operative until such approval is obtained.

In reference to the animadversions of this agent upon these provisions of the law, and the course of the Department in making semi-annual payments where the annuities are large, it is only necessary to call attention to the following extract from the report of the superintendent of the district, residing at St. Louis, written, as will be seen, with the above remarks of the agent before him, and whose high standing and great experience as an officer entitle his views and opinions, in relation to matters of this kind, to more than ordinary consideration.

"The regulations of last November, in regard to the issuing of licenses to traders, which require that the person soliciting a license shall make his application in writing, furnish his bond, invoice, and testimonials of character, and that the license, accompanied by these documents, shall be forwarded to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for approval or otherwise, are calculated to insure uniformity and a due observance of law, and, at the same time, to prevent improper persons from getting into the Indian country through

the sanction of the government; it is certainly strange that the law of 1834, requiring the action of the Commissioner on licenses, should have been so long overlooked.

"The system of semi-annual payments, adopted by you this year, is of such manifest benefit to the Indians (excepting small annuitants) in enabling them to procure their supplies at fair prices in the spring and fall, that it stands in no need of commendation from me. A few persons, it is true, object to it on account of its increasing the business of the agent. I know no agency in this superintendency where the payments could not be made quarterly, if required, without devolving any excessive labor upon the agent. I speak advisedly on this subject. Last spring, owing to the absence of the agent of the Osage river agency, who resigned in consequence of *ill health*, I made the payment in twelve days to seven different tribes—travelled over 160 miles—paid the different employees of the government—held councils with nearly all the tribes of the agency, in some of which important business was transacted, and, during the whole time, was laboring under great debility; and this is one of the largest agencies in the superintendency."

W. M.

Office Indian Affairs, *Nov.* 30, 1848.

No. 3—A.

Ottawa Baptist Mission, Indian Territory,
September 22, 1848.

Dear sir: Since the time of making out my last annual report our district school has been discontinued, and arrangements are now being made for opening a permanent boarding school, which will probably commence in the spring or summer of 1849.

The Ottawas have, for several years past, been making a gradual improvement in their houses, fields, stock, farming and household implements, &c., and have been increasing in their habits of industry, temperance, morality, and piety. Although their stock has, during the past year, much increased, still they will be able, probably, to sell about one half of the products of their farms to the Sacs, Foxes, and Pottawatomies.

Various efforts have been made during the last two years, by the United States' agents, the missionaries, and by yourself, to induce the Ottowas to exclude ardent spirits from their country, and to become temperate, but without much success, except within the bounds of the mission church. During the present year, however, the chiefs and principal men of the tribe have made a noble effort, and have succeeded in inducing the nation to make a law, in public council, to entirely prevent the introduction of all spirituous liquors into their country. Since the adoption of the said law, one person only has ventured to bring liquor, who was immediately fined ten dollars. Occasionally a few of the most worthless fellows go into the white settlements and take a spree, but it is hoped that even this will soon be stopped.

The station is patronized by the American Baptist Mission Union, whose seat of operations is at Boston, Massachusetts; Rev. S. Peck, corresponding secretary. The missionaries at the station are the undersigned and his wife, whose post office address is Westport, Jackson county, Missouri.

Most respectfully, I am, dear sir, yours, &c.,

JOTHAM MEEKER.

Major T. H. Harvey,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 4.

St. Peter's (Winnebago) Agency,
October 4, 1848.

Sir: Since my last annual report of the condition of the Winnebago Indians, the most important event connected with them is their removal from the neutral ground to the country they now occupy. When the tribe was notified last spring, by the government, that their new home was procured for them, they decided at once to remove, and such arrangements were made as would have enabled them to remove comfortably, and with a very moderate expense, but the interference of interested individuals created dissatisfaction and disturbance among the Indians, which caused much delay, and resulted in scattering one half of the tribe. Some of those who turned back went to their old hunting ground in Wisconsin, others went west into the interior and western part of Iowa. I have recently been informed that a party of about one hundred in number have joined the Ottoes, southwest of the Missouri river.

The difficulties existing between the Sioux and Chippewas greatly embarrassed the removal of the Winnebagoes. They were induced to believe that they would necessarily become involved in the war between those tribes, and that they would be exterminated. Those who turned back were no doubt influenced by fear. It was with great difficulty that one half of the tribe, including all the principal chiefs, were persuaded to persevere in removing to their new home.

It is probable that a majority of those who have scattered will return and join their tribe this fall; and they will all ultimately come back, if they are not encouraged to join other tribes, and allowed to participate in their annuities. It will be difficult for these wanderers to subsist by their own exertions; want will soon compel them to return to their tribe. Two small parties, consisting of some thirty in number, have already come in, and the chiefs have sent a delegation to hunt up the absentees, and induce them to return. The Winnebagoes left Turkey river on the 8th of June, and arrived at the mouth of the Watab river on the 30th of July; the distance travelled, 310 miles.

The country for the Winnebagoes was judiciously selected. It is the best location that could be procured for them west of the

Mississippi river. A large proportion of the country is forest, which abounds with game and valuable furs; and the numerous rivers and lakes are well stored with excellent fish.

The Winnebagoes are well pleased and satisfied with the country which has been procured for them, and look upon it as their permanent home.

From the time the Winnebagoes received their annuities last fall, until they commenced preparations for removing in the spring, nothing of unusual importance occurred in relation to them. Their plentiful crop last season, together with their annuities, afforded them ample means of subsistence during the winter and spring. Ample provision has been made for their subsistence during the present year. Early in May, five men with a team and tools were sent from the agency on Turkey river to this country to commence improvements preparatory for the Indians. The amount of labor performed by them previous to the arrival of the Indians is not very creditable to their industry. About 150 acres of land at the former agency on Turkey river were put in grain last spring before the Indians left: three men were left to cultivate and secure the crop; which has proved to be very good.

The quantity of intoxicating liquor consumed by the Winnebagoes the past year has been far less than usual. The vigilance of the officers stationed at Fort Atkinson, and a few prosecutions commenced against persons for attempting to introduce whiskey among this tribe, has had the effect, in a great measure, to prevent its introduction and use.

The practicability of civilizing the Winnebago Indians is no longer considered doubtful. While the Winnebagoes occupied the neutral ground as a temporary residence, it was not deemed advisable to encourage them to invest their means in erecting permanent dwelling houses, planting orchards, &c., for the reason that it would but attach them more strongly to the soil which they must soon leave, and increase the obstacles in the way of effecting their removal from that country. The efforts made to advance them in civilization were chiefly directed to encourage them to cultivate the soil, and to adopt the use of common agricultural implements; also to substitute horse power for the labor of their women, in packing wood and other burdens. While occupying their former residence this tribe, or rather, the several bands of the tribe, had, to a certain extent, a community of interests, and the plan of operations adopted for them was calculated to encourage this system. Their ground was ploughed and fenced in large fields, and these fields assigned to different bands. Now the position of the tribe is different; it is expected that the Winnebagoes will occupy their present home for a considerable number of years, and it will be expedient to encourage individual interests. To effect this, it is considered best to prepare as fast as practicable small farms with comfortable dwelling houses, stables and out-houses, for such families as will occupy them. To protect these interests, and secure to the industrious the quiet possession of the fruits of their labor, laws are indispensable. The chiefs of the tribe have neither the

independence to enact, nor the power to enforce the laws, which, they are fully aware, are necessary to promote the prosperity of their people. The government of the United States must, for the present, enact and enforce these laws. The chiefs, and the industrious and well disposed portion of the tribe desire, and request the government to afford them this protection.

There is, at present, a disposition manifested by a considerable portion of the tribe, to make laudable efforts to improve their condition; some individuals have applied for assistance in building and furnishing dwelling houses after the fashion of the white man. Assistance will be rendered to such as will help themselves, in making such improvements as are deemed necessary for them. It is believed that a portion of the interest of the investment, stipulated in the fourth article of the treaty of 1846, would be well expended in building dwelling houses for such of the tribe as should, by industry and good conduct, prove themselves deserving of assistance.

The Winnebago school was discontinued early in May. Up to that time the school was well attended, and the usual progress made by the children. A statement in detail of the operations of the school cannot now be given, for want of access to the records, which were packed with the property belonging to the school, and have not yet arrived here. The Rev. D. Lowry, superintendent of the school, and Mr. Williams, assistant teacher, have assisted in the removal of the Indians. I have availed myself of Mr. Lowry's advice in selecting the location for the agency, and, also, in selecting locations for manual labor schools. One school house is now commenced near the agency. The funds now appropriated for education, in the several treaties with the Winnebagoes, are ample to support a sufficient number of manual labor schools to educate every child in the tribe. To bring the tribe generally to appreciate the benefits of education, and to induce them to send their children to school, will require persevering effort and judicious management.

The practicability of converting the Winnebago Indians to Christianity, is yet to be tested. No systematic and persevering efforts have been made to bring the truths of the gospel to bear upon them. The barrenness of their language, and the difficulty of translating the bible into it, are serious obstacles in the way of their religious improvement. But these obstacles are not insurmountable. It is hoped that the churches in our land will not longer overlook this tribe in their efforts to Christianize the American Indians.

During the past year, and especially during the past summer, the health of this tribe has been unusually good.

About one-third of the annuity goods due the tribe the present year have been paid to them since their arrival at their new home; the balance will be paid them with their money. The tribe are well satisfied with the kind and quality of goods furnished them. The annuity provisions furnished this year prove to be of excellent quality.

The Pillager band of Indians will receive their goods this year

at the mouth of Crow Wing river. I have not been able to visit this band, and therefore cannot, from my own observation, speak of their character and condition. They are represented as being very poor and destitute. The goods which they now receive annually from the government will be of great service to them. The Chippewas of the Mississippi, are well satisfied with the arrangements which have been made with regard to them. The Sioux and Chippewas are at present on friendly terms with the Winnebagoes; they say they wish to live in peace and friendship with their brothers, the Winnebagoes, and "eat out of the same dish with them;" which they literally do; the Winnebagoes have been liberal in presents to both tribes.

The Sioux and Chippewas continue hostile to each other. The chiefs of both these tribes have expressed a willingness to meet in council for the purpose of negotiating a peace. If I had the means to subsist a large party during a council, I would attempt to effect a reconciliation between these tribes in that way. The most reliable means of keeping these tribes at peace would be to establish a sufficient military force among them. It is important that a company of dragoons should be stationed on the southwestern boundary of the Winnebagoes. A well disciplined company at that point would hold the Sioux and Chippewas in check, afford the Winnebagoes the protection which they have been encouraged to expect, and which they need, and at the same time control any disorder that might arise among them. It is deemed important that the Winnebagoes should be withdrawn from the Mississippi river, and located on the western portion of their country; but it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to effect this the present season, unless a military force is stationed in the neighborhood.

Trespass to a considerable extent has been committed, the present season, in the hunting grounds of the Sioux by British half breeds. I have understood that quarrels have arisen between the parties, and serious consequences resulted. As soon as other duties will permit, this matter will be more fully investigated, and made the subject of a special report.

Letters to this agency should be directed via Fort Snelling.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. FLETCHER,
Indian Agent.

THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 4—A.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1848.

SIR: The Winnebago school closed early in May last, in consequence of the removal of the Indians, and owing to the very unexpected delay in that operation, it has not yet been opened; but we hope to be able to resume business in a short time.

Being now in the act of moving myself, with my family, &c., to the Indian country, and having no access to the teachers or records of the school, it is out of my power to give those details respecting the studies and progress of the children usually found in annual reports. From my last report, however, up to the close of the institution, it had been as well attended as at any former period, and the pupils manifested their usual interest in the branches of study assigned them.

It is now hoped that obstacles to the improvement of the Winnebagoes heretofore existing, and which grew out of their unsettled state, will cease to operate, and that *all* the means provided under treaty stipulations for their instruction will be immediately brought into action. The funds named in the treaty of 1846, in connexion with a manual labor school, should be united with the previous funds for the school and farm, and the whole expended in developing the moral, physical, and intellectual powers of the Indians.

A printing press would be of much service to the tribe, and though not specified in the treaty of 1846, yet the discretionary power granted by that instrument in carrying out its provisions, gives full liberty to provide one. The object is not, of course, to print books, but to publish in the first place a small juvenile newspaper, adapted to the capacities of the children at school, and those who may have left the institution. Such a paper would not only be interesting to the children, but through them much valuable information might be imparted to the adult Indians.

In calling the attention of the children to the arts of civilized life, those branches should be first presented which are best adapted to a semi-savage state. To teach a branch of domestic economy to a family still preferring the wigwam to the house, when a residence in the latter would be necessary to enable them to realize the advantages of such knowledge, would be worse than useless. Let families, therefore, be drawn as early as possible into houses, and feel that they are more comfortable *there* than in a wigwam, and you have them at once prepared to adopt habits suited to their new circumstances and to perceive the advantages. A tangible object before an Indian will affect him where theory and reasoning have no power over him whatever.

In efforts to induce the Indian to cultivate the soil, I am decidedly in favor of giving each family that may choose it a separate location, sufficiently remote from one another to permit the raising of stock, &c. *We*, ourselves, would not think of living together in villages, and attend to agricultural pursuits, raise cattle, hogs, &c. It would be much more difficult for Indians to do so who are destitute of law, often drunk, and disposed to kill and destroy the lives and property of each other.

In attempts to benefit these people, too much care cannot be taken in the selection of persons to labor with them. It is fifteen years this day since I came to the Indian country. During this time I have been a constant observer of efforts to improve our northern tribes, and am of the opinion that the greatest hindrance

in this work of benevolence is a want of proper persons to engage in it. Reference is not here made so much to habits of industry as to moral qualifications. Instead of learning virtue, the Indians too frequently learn vice from those sent to improve their condition. Allow me to add, in this connexion, that mere outward morality, detached from feelings of concern for the salvation of the Indians, is not sufficient. *The heart must be in the work.*

D. LOWRY,
Superintendent W. S.

Gen. J. E. Fletcher,
United States Indian Agent.

No. 5.

Council Bluffs Agency,
September 15, 1848.

Sir: I have the honor of submitting to you my annual report of the condition of the Indians of the different tribes of this agency.

The Ottoes and Missourias, who for some years past have resided on each side of the great river Platte, were attacked last fall by the Sioux, on the north, and driven to the south of the river, since which time they have refused to live on the north. I could not prevail on them to have their corn planted on their farm north of the Platte, although they were promised if they would agree to attend their farm on the north that the government would furnish them a farmer to show them how to harness their horses, &c. On their positively refusing so to do, the agent did not consider it expedient to employ one for them. On the south of the Platte they can scarcely be said to have any farm, as the lands they cultivate are in small patches, perhaps not more than two acres in the largest, and many times not exceeding one-half or fourth acre.

In the instructions received from the superintendent of Indian affairs of the 24th February last, it was left discretionary with the agent to employ a farmer or not, to show them how to harness their horses, and instruct them in agriculture, &c., which would have been done but for the above reasons, and that it would have been a useless waste of funds to employ a man to superintend the cultivation of their small patches, too small, if possible, for a horse and plough to turn in. They have been left to depend upon their own exertions, and I presume they have done quite as well as they would have done had they been furnished with a farmer, situated as they were.

In the future, they will require considerably more corn than formerly, from the fact that the game is fast receding, and already so remote that but a few of their village attempt to go in pursuit of buffalo. Corn is their almost only support, and if they should remain where they now are, I would respectfully suggest the pro-

priety of having them some land broken up south of the Platte; their ponies are too light for breaking prairie land.

The Ottoes, this year, have made a tolerable hunt; their spring and summer hunt is mostly valuable for provisions. The skins of the buffalo taken in these hunts are dressed and used for lodge skins and strouding for the squaws, &c.

Their blacksmith shop is of great advantage to their tribe; in fact their smith has made 327 axes and hoes, also, 12 ploughs, 61 sheet iron kettles, 75 tin kettles and cups, and a number of fire steels, and cold chissels, besides stocking a number of their guns, as well as the repairing of many others. It is nothing strange, after a drinking frolic, to see them come to the shop with their guns smashed or broken, and done, evidently, by severe blows, either on the ground, logs, or trees.

They are dissatisfied with the plan of semi-annual payments; their annuity being only twenty-five hundred dollars, is so small, when divided, as to amount to but a fraction over one dollar per capita; which sum is insufficient to procure them a blanket or gun. The consequence is, that I fear much of the little will go for whiskey. If it were practicable, it would meet the views of the Indians much better to get their annuity in one payment than in two. I would remark, that as the Department has commenced semi-annual payments with the Indians, it would be best to continue it, as it will enable them more readily to procure ammunition for their spring and fall hunts, on which they wish, generally, to start by the first of October and middle of May; by which the Department will see the necessity of forwarding funds for annuity purposes in time for their different hunts. They number about 900 souls.

The Omahas have no annuity; they reside at their former village when not on the hunt. They have made perhaps a sufficiency of corn to do them the present season, provided they can make a good winter's hunt; their crop was cut short, owing to the drouth in June and July. They have also a blacksmith and assistant who render them similar service to that of the Ottoe shop.

The Ottoes and Omahas would, in my opinion, soon become a prosperous people, were it not for the cursed traffic in whiskey that is kept up on the line of the States of Iowa and Missouri; there is no difficulty in the Indians obtaining any quantity of spirits on the western borders of these two States. If the legislature of each of these two States would incorporate a clause in their statute acts, making an Indian a competent witness against the whiskey seller, and add imprisonment to the fine, it would, in a great degree, break up the traffic, for in most cases the offenders have nothing to be come at, except their *bodies*. Already this season there have (as I have recently learned) been some fifteen or twenty of these two tribes' horses sold for whiskey. When they start on the hunt, they steal as many more from the whites, with perhaps a few others for interest. If such amendments were made to the laws, I do not believe that one-fourth of the troubles would take place between the border settlements and the Indians.

On the 8th of July last, I informed the Department that there was

danger of a war between the Ottoes and Omahas in relation to their disputed land claim. This matter has been pressed upon the department so frequently by the superintendent of Indian affairs and the former agent, as well as the present one, that anything more would be useless.

The Omahas number about 1,300 souls. These two tribes have a missionary and school establishment amongst them, which I hope will be of lasting benefit to them; for the particulars of which I would respectfully refer you to the report of the Rev. Edward McKinney, the superintendent of the institution.

The Pawnees number about 2,500. They have no annuity, and owing to their potent enemies, the Sioux, they still reside on the south of the Platte. In council, this fall, the chiefs of three bands of the Pawnees told me they were anxious to move on their own land, north of the Platte, that they wanted their Great Father to make the grand Pawnee band cross over with them; that if the grand Pawnees were with them, they would be better able to sustain themselves against the Sioux, and that they wish to move before they plant their corn, or as soon as they come in from their winter's hunt. These three bands seem more than willing to move; they say they cannot make corn on their present place, and they cannot get timber to rebuild their lodges. They are anxious to get their school teacher and blacksmith to reside in their village.

The government has purchased the past season for the Pawnees between seventeen and eighteen hundred bushels of corn, to keep them from suffering. There were some thirty or forty of these Indians who made their escape to this place last June, when they were attacked by the Iowas, whom the agent had to furnish with provisions until their people returned from their summer hunt. The Pawnees are still in a miserable condition; their crops this season have almost been an entire failure, owing to the drought. Their corn in the Platte bottoms was literally burned up. There are now near or quite one hundred of these Indians in here that were too old or too poor to go to the hunt; these creatures have to live, and to live they must eat. The agent has procured a small farm, out of his own means, and hired a hand to make his crop. I expect to employ these Indians to aid in gathering and shucking the corn, for which I expect to pay them well in corn, potatoes, &c., which, whilst it will relieve the government of the charge, will stimulate the Indians to habits of industry. There will have to be a quantity of corn purchased for the Pawnees next spring, or they will suffer, unless they make an unusual good hunt this winter.

Their school is still kept at Bellevue, under the superintendence of Mr. Samuel Allis; the children are making as good progress as could be expected, all things considered. I would respectfully beg leave to refer you to the accompanying report of Mr. S. Allis, in relation to the progress of the school, marked A.

Their smith and assistant have rendered much aid in making hoes, axes, buckets, iron kettles, &c. &c.

I will close this report by begging leave to make a suggestion on

one matter. These Indian chiefs look on labor as beneath men, and that squaws are alone to do all kinds of drudgery, or the poor of their tribe, captives taken in war, &c. Suppose every agent and sub-agent were to keep a farm, and when not engaged in their official duties, let them show those sons of the forest that they at least consider that labor is not only not dishonorable, but honorable and praiseworthy, and, in my humble opinion, a farm at each agency would be of great service to the Indians, as example has more influence than precept.

With great respect, I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN MILLER,
Indian Agent.

Major Thos. H. Harvey,
Superintend. Indian affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

P. S. From indisposition in Rev. E. McKinney's family, he has not been able to furnish his report; so soon as it comes to hand it will immediately be forwarded to your office.

No. 5—A.

Bellevue, Upper Missouri,
September 30, 1848.

Dear Sir: Since my last annual report there has been no material change in the children under my charge as to numbers, but they have made considerable improvement in learning.

I need not say, as you are well aware, that the children are not commodiously situated for improvement, notwithstanding most of them are quite intelligent readers.

Last spring three of our former number of children were taken to their village by the parents. One of them a girl fourteen years old, who has lived in our family five years, was taken against her will to be married, and has ever since pined away, until about a month since was taken sick and died. Last spring two half-breed, and two weeks since two full blood Pawnees, were added to the school, making in all eleven Pawnee children in our family that attend school, besides sixteen half-breed Otoe, Omaha, Pawnee, and white children in the neighborhood that attend school, and have most of the time during the past year.

We have also a young Pawnee and his wife who assist in labor. The school fund for the Pawnees might be more economically expended to the advantage of the school, had the teacher better accommodations here, or (if they could be unmolested) conducted by a mission in their own country. We might at this time add several to our school of Pawnees here, one hundred miles from their village, had we the means of accommodation. We would like to be advised on the subject. To throw these children back on to the Indians, would be wasting all labor and expense, as has been the

case with their farming operations. I hope that something can be done to protect them from their enemies, the Sioux.

The Pawnees, as you know, sir, have, for the past year and still are, almost in a starving condition; they will of necessity call on the government the coming spring for more corn; there are but few families that have more than one or two bushels now, for eating and planting next spring. I have hired a competent female teacher for nine months past, who I have paid $1 50 per week; my wife has superintended the work of the girls in the house, and my time has been spent in raising provisions to lessen provision expenses.

Yours, very respectfully,

SAMUEL ALLIS.

Major John Miller,
Indian agent, Council Bluffs agency.

No. 6.

Upper Missouri Agency,
September 25, 1848.

Sir: In conformity with the regulations of the Department, I have the honor of submitting the following report:

Since my last report, the Indians under my charge have enjoyed, as usual, most excellent health, and there have been but few deaths from sickness. I regret to inform you that many of the Assineboin Indians died last winter of starvation; the buffalo having receded from their hunting grounds early in the winter, leaving them without the means of subsistence. These Indians reside at and near the mouth of the Yellow Stone. I have been informed by some white men in that section of country, that after these Indians had devoured their horses, dogs, &c., they were reduced to the necessity of devouring their own dead; and this is entitled to much credit, when we reflect upon the great depth of the snow and the intense cold weather in that region of country, coupled with the abject poverty of these Indians, and their great propensity for idleness. At the present time these Indians are doing well, the buffalo having returned to the country in great abundance.

The remaining tribes under my charge, the past season, have done unusually well, their trade being much larger than it has been for years. From returns made to me by traders, the trade may safely be estimated at $400,000. Number of robes made, 110,000; 25,000 buffalo tongues, with furs, peltries, &c , to make up the amount of $400,000.

The heavy trade of last season has induced others to apply to me for licenses to trade with the Indians under my charge. I have approved of and forwarded the license, bond, &c., of Mr. R. Pierson, A. Papin, and M. Robideaux, to trade with the Sioux, and the license of Mr. Peter A. Sarpy to trade with the Poncas. These

gentlemen are all old traders, and, under the presumption that their licenses would be approved of by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, have started their outfits to the Indian country.

Since my last report, the Sioux Indians have attacked and killed some twenty-eight Pawnees and twenty-six Ottoe Indians. This continuous state of hostilities with these tribes should be looked to by the government; unless something is done to put an end to existing hostilities between said tribes, the Ottoes, Omahas, and Pawnees will soon be extinct.

For the personal security of the last named tribes, I must again suggest the importance of a military post at or near the mouth of the Vermillion river. There are more reasons than one for a military post at this point. It would give personal security to the Otoes and Omahas; it would enable the government to put an end to existing feuds and petty wars between the various tribes in the Upper Missouri agency; it would enable the government to arrest and bring to justice the dishonest and disaffected white men now in the Indian country, of whom there are not a few. This point is 120 miles above the old Council Bluffs, and only twenty miles from the State line of Iowa; upon which line there are not a few settling with no ostensible object in view but to sell whiskey to the Sioux Indians and white men in the Indian country. This thing should be looked to in time; or, in the end, it will give the government much trouble. A military post at said point would prevent the introduction of whiskey through this channel, and enable the agent of the government to arrest all offenders. In urging the necessity of a military post at the Vermillion, I do not wish to be understood as advocating the policy of governing the Indians by military force. By a reference to the early history of the country we find the true policy a mild, conciliatory course, using the powers of pursuasion, and treating the Indians as equals, &c. I take the position that to civilize the Indians, you must give them personal security from domestic war, with permanent habitations; and to do *this*, you must use forcible means with Indians that have been corrupted by white men.

I must again call your attention to the importance of an institution of learning for the benefit of the Indians under my charge. Father P. J. De Smet, a Catholic priest, a pious and good man, as well as a gentleman of extensive learning and experience in the Indian country, is now on a mission with the Sioux, Arickarees, Gros Ventres, and Mandan Indians, with a view of ascertaining their views in regard to schools, agriculture, &c. I cannot too strongly urge upon you the necessity of a co-operation with Father De Smet in such efforts as he may make for the benefit of the Indians. I will avail myself of the earliest opportunity of laying before you the opinions and views of Father De Smet.

In regard to trade and the traders in my district of country, I have but little to say. The company of P. Chouteau, jr., & Co., as it now stands under the new organization, I am satisfied with. The company of Harvey, Primeau & Co. occupy a different position, from the fact of the serious charges which have been made

against one of its members, Mr. A. Harvey, the senior partner. The other members of this firm, in my opinion, are good men, and have the confidence of the Indians. I have required the dismissal of many men (some of whom were principal traders) from the service of the company of P. Chouteau, jr., & Co., and Harvey, Primeau & Co., which has been done, and the greater portion of those ordered from the country have left.

I found it impossible, as well as impracticable, to undertake to force a compliance with the law in relation to foreigners. You are aware that there are a great many foreigners in the upper Missouri, many of whom have been in the country for many years, and have large Indian families, to which they are attached. These men manifest a disposition to comply with the law, and say they went into the country ignorant of what the law really was. This I am inclined to believe; and, in consideration of these things, I believe the true policy to be to induce them, by mild measures, to visit the States, and become citizens of the United States, with a view of returning to the Indian country.

I could here swell this report into a volume, were I disposed to write upon Indian character, &c.; but I will not attempt the thing for fear I fall into the same errors that many others have done; i. e., writing things that are untrue, and of which they know nothing. I have long believed that there is no one subject about which so much is written that is untrue as that of the manners, customs, habits, and character of the Indians.

I have had in my employment this year Bruce Husband, a native of Scotland, Louison Frinear, Zephyr Rencontre, and Henry Onga, half breed Sioux, as interpreters; also, H. Onga as guide.

The Indians under my charge have been, as usual, peaceful in their relations with the whites. They have been guilty of no depredations, with the exception of the attack on the steamer Martha, of the details of which you are in possession.

Your obedient servant,

G. C. MATLOCK,
Indian Agent.

THOS. H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 7.

ST. LOUIS, *October* 6, 1848.

SIR: I am about leaving this place for my agency on the upper Platte and Arkansas; and, in consideration of the lateness of the season, deem it proper, before starting, (in order to comply with the rules of the Department,) to write from this place what must suffice for my annual report. I much regret that such must be my course, inasmuch as I intended to have written from the spot, and collected such information for the Department as would put it in possession of the present state of the country, and the Indians for

whom I am appointed agent. On that subject I have said much heretofore, and will still continue to refer to it until the government puts forth such measures as will give protection to the citizens of the United States passing and repassing through that wild region. This can easily be done, and I know of nothing more important to be accomplished, in regard to that country, at the present time. It is true the government have made efforts of late (at considerable expense) to police the country and to protect travellers; but, I am sorry to say, to no purpose, other than to exhibit a weakness and want of power to chastise the Indians, or prevent their constant marauding on our citizens as well as on each other. For nearly a year past, the country alluded to has been occupied by a large force of volunteer troops, and much more in number than are actually required. On the Arkansas river were stationed a battalion of five hundred men—infantry, artillery, and mounted riflemen; but which, I believe, have acted altogether on the defensive, and did not even succeed in that, as the Indians took by force many of their horses. Five hundred men, properly armed and equipped, and under the command of an officer who knows his duty, and willing to do it, would soon put that country in such a state of safety that one man, with his wife and child, could pass to New Mexico, or the Rocky mountains, unmolested. On the Platte river, and its vicinity, were stationed six hundred men, intended for the protection of the immigrants to Oregon and California. Yet I know of no one year, since the first immigrant passed up the Platte river, that they suffered more than they have the present one.

This seems strange to have happened, almost in the presence of a large military force, sent out expressly to protect the immigrants, yet it is nevertheless true. The reason assigned (as I am informed) by the commanding officer for not interfering in behalf of the poor immigrant, was the starving and destitute condition of the Pawnee Indians, who were the main and principal depredators. This may be considered a very philanthropic view of the subject; but it seems to me much more so to prevent injury being inflicted on our own citizens first, and who were proceeding in a peaceable manner on one of the most arduous land journies ever undertaken by man; after which extend all suitable kindness to the Indian, in strict accordance with his deserts. It has always appeared to me that great error exists in the public mind, in regard to the relations between the white man and the Indian, inasmuch as whatever atrocities have ever been committed by the Indians are invariably attributed to the rascality and swindling operations of the white man. With such impressions on the public mind, and also entertained by the heads of government, no wonder, then, that the course of the commanding officer above alluded to would be considered highly proper.

I am aware that great violations of justice have been committed on both sides; but the Indians, of whom I now speak, (the wild tribes of the prairie,) have always kept far ahead of the white man in the perpetration of rascality; and I believe it is only in order

to keep pace, and hold his own with the Indian, that the white man is often obliged to resort to many mean practices. With this the poor immigrants have nothing to do; all they want is a free and unmolested passage through to their destination; and, in my opinion, they ought to have it, cost what it may.

It is the general opinion throughout the United States that Indians are very much imposed on by the white man who trades with them. This opinion is no doubt true, to some extent; but little more than the introduction of spirituous liquors, and the evils arising out of its intoxicating influence. In all other respects the Indians receive a very fair equivalent for all they have to dispose of; and it cannot be otherwise so long as the great competition that now exists continues. However, I am by no means satisfied that such competition is advantageous or beneficial to the Indian, either in a pecuniary or a moral point of view, inasmuch as the competitors, in many cases, resort to the most base and unprincipled means in order to carry out their plans against other competitors, and, in doing so, often use the poor deluded Indian as the instrument to carry out their base proceedings. It may easily be seen that such conduct is exceedingly demoralizing to the Indian; and, if a change could be instituted in the present system of trade, say something approximating to a sutlership in each tribe, or more, according to the character and standing of the person or persons engaged in it, my opinion is it would be far more beneficial to both parties than the present system.

I will leave here in two days for Bent's Fort, on the Arkansas river, in the vicinity of which I expect to find many of the prairie tribes awaiting my arrival. Before leaving there last February, I had an interview with some of the Kiaway chiefs, and who have been heretofore allies of the Comanches. They expressed themselves sorry for having any thing to do with the war against us, and promised to quit their country and all intercourse with the Comanches and join the Cheyennes, on the Arkansas, who are the friends of the whites. This course I approved, and since my departure from that country last spring learned that nearly all the Kiaways have moved to the country of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, and are living in perfect amity with the surrounding tribes.

It may be observed by the various letters and reports from New Mexico and the Indian country, that the Indians seem to have partially ceased their continual warring upon our people passing through the country, more particularly on the Santa Fe road, inasmuch as fewer attacks have been reported, and comparatively but little loss sustained the past season. To what to attribute this partial cessation of hostilities I know not, other than to the Indians having, in '46 and '47, secured so much booty by their daring outrages upon travellers, are now, and have been the past summer, luxuriating in and enjoying the spoils. Let not the government suppose, for a moment, that those marauding tribes who have been successful so long without meeting with any reverses will now desist, and abandon that war which they have found to be so profitable, without some great cause. That cause must be a thorough

knowledge of our ability and willingness to chastise them, not only for what they have already done, but also what they may attempt in future. On this subject I need say but little at present, having often before alluded to it, as well as having submitted plans for the complete tranquilization of all the wild tribes east of the Rocky mountains.

Now that the Mexican war is at an end, and an advantageous and honorable peace obtained, by which great and extensive territorial acquisitions have been gained; it is to be hoped that the government will immediately put in progress ample and efficient means for the protection of immigrants, and all American citizens, passing to and from said territorial acquisitions. To do this, a military station must be established on each of the great thoroughfares leading to the late acquired territory. These thoroughfares are the roads leading to New Mexico, Oregon, and California, each of which pass through the country of the Indians for whom I am appointed agent. In the vicinity of this road, and in the surrounding country, are to be found numerous Indian tribes, the most warlike and formidable of any of the wild tribes of this continent, and who subsist altogether by the chase; warring on, and plundering their fellow man. With these facts well known, it must certainly appear evident that something must be done to keep those Indians quiet, and nothing short of an efficient military force stationed in the country will do this, and the sooner it is done the better for all parties; because, should open hostility once commence against us by all those savages who acknowledge no superior in war, it would cost much blood and treasure to subdue them. On the contrary, if an active and efficient force is sent into the country at once, with instructions to punish all depredators, and let no violation of peace and harmony pass with impunity, then peace and order will soon follow, and the Indian become a much better being; and besides, very few troops will be necessary in the country afterwards.

In leaving here I will proceed to Westport or Independence, for the purpose of attaching myself to some party who may be going out to Santa Fé, in order thereby that I may have safety and protection from the dangers liable to occur to one or two men; but I hope ere long to see these dangers lessened so as to be able to travel through the country with small as well as large parties.

This communication is by no means what I wished it to be, as I am possessed of very little more information in regard to the Indians of my agency than I have already submitted in my last. However, on reaching my destination and ascertaining the state of the country and collecting material, I will write again.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

THOMAS FITZPATRICK,
Indian Agent.

THOS. H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 8.

SAINT PETER'S SUB-AGENCY,
October 9, 1848.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the Indian department, I submit my first annual report, at the earliest practicable moment of time since my return from St. Louis, with the annuity for the Sioux. Having come here so recently, it will not be expected that this report will be very lengthy and as full as would be desired by the Department or myself. On my arrival here, in July last, in company with Major Thomas H. Harvey, superintendent of Indian affairs of St. Louis, Mo., the chiefs in general council made complaints against their farmers, with one exception, and charged them with not having done their duty to them. I went and examined for myself several of the villages to see how the crops looked, and the mode of cultivation, and from what I could see and learn there was some cause for the complaints with some bands; others were actuated by other motives, to get their relatives appointed in place of those that were in. The farmers have had to labor under a good deal of difficulty for want of teams to do their work with, in consequence of the Indians killing their work oxen. They have taken young cattle and broke them to work, and, very often, as soon as the crop was planted they would kill them, and leave the farmer to purchase a team at his own expense to do the work for the Indians, which some have done. The farmers say they have ploughed as much ground as the Indians could cultivate, and in some instances more. From what I can learn, the farmer for the Wabasha band does not reside in the Indian country at this time, nor never has done so, although he was acting as farmer for the Indians, and was under pay at six hundred dollars per annum, till the first of August last, when he was dismissed. After the ground is ploughed, the women and children plant it, in a promiscuous way, about three feet each way, with from six to twenty grains in a hill. Of course it can make but a very scanty crop. The Indian men do very little work toward making corn, and, when urged to do so, will often say he is not a woman to cultivate the soil, and that it is a disgrace for a warrior to work, and seems to prefer an idle life, although it subjects himself and family to so many privations. Even extreme hunger and starvation would be the probable result if it was not for the commanding officer at this post, together with the traders and the interpreter, with a few more that lend and give to the Indians. It is supposed that the Mendawakanton Sioux have about four hundred acres under cultivation at the present time. I am fully satisfied that the system of farming has failed of accomplishing what the government had expected, in the way it has been conducted. It has cost the Indians, since the system was adopted, calculating the seven farmers at six hundred dollars per annum, an amount of $4,200. Add to this the sum for teams, waggons, ploughs, axes, drawing knives, augurs, saws, and many other things too numerous

to be mentioned, say $2,000 per annum, makes a sum of $6,200 per annum for each year. Suppose this 400 acres to produce 20 bushels per acre as an average crop, it would be 8,000 bushels per annum; calculating it would be worth, on an average, 50 cents per bushel, $4,000. Add to this for making hay, fencing, building storehouses, cabins for the Indians to live in, hauling goods, &c., say seven hundred dollars, make the sum of $4,700 per annum. It will be seen, if this calculation be correct, to have cost the Indians the sum of $1500 more than it was worth each year; those calculations are made upon supposition in part, but will be something near correct. Although the average given for corn is low, it will be as much as the Indians have realized. It would have cost the Indians less money to have bought the corn at once, and it seems that the Indians have not learned to farm, and will not try as long as they have others to depend on. I am unable to tell whether they will help themselves or not when their farmers are taken away; it seems, from what I have seen and been able to learn, there has been very little done towards civilization. After ten years' time has elapsed, and the expense of so much labor and so much money, it seems that some other means will have to be tried; and I would most respectfully suggest, that to elevate this people they must have law and order; as it is at present, there is no security of person or property, and should an Indian be industrious and get a little property, he is not sure he will be able to keep it a month. This will be seen by the following incident: a chief's son a short time since purchased two good horses, and had one before; a young man asked for the loan of one of them, and, on being refused, he went out and found the horses, and killed two of them and wounded the third one badly; and went off saying that if any person sought revenge he would kill them. It would be well to have some act passed to punish those persons, and leave it discretionary with the agents to have them put under guard and kept at hard labor for a reasonable time, for the first violation of the law, and double it for a second offence, and withhold their annuity in money and goods, and apply it to pay the injured persons as far as it would go. Something of this kind would do much to secure property to the Indians and citizens in the territory contiguous to the Indian settlements, and would have a beneficial effect towards civilizing the Indians.

If those bands on the Mississippi could be induced to move up on the St. Peter's river, above Fort Snelling, I think it would enable the agent, with the assistance of the commanding officer at this post, to suppress the use of whiskey to a very great extent. As the Indians are situated at present, they have only to cross the Mississippi to find a whiskey seller. For a distance of one hundred and twenty miles or more, the use of spirituous liquors is one grand obstacle in the way of civilizing the Indians, which I am well satisfied of, and nothing will be wanting on my part to suppress it, so far as I can do so; but this cannot be done without being backed by the arm of the government. The health of the Indians has been good during the present season, much better than usual for

several of the preceding years. Very few deaths have taken place among them since the last annual report from this agency. There have been some complaints made against some of the Wah-pa-koota Indians, that reside on the Des Moine river; they are a party of murderers that have left the main band for fear of being killed by their own people. Some of these Indians sent back three horses, that they had stolen from some white man that was engaged in trapping, and by some mismanagement, the horses were not turned over to the agency, but those that got them have promised to pay for them. James E. Gray and Henry Netherton are the claimants. Also several other articles were taken from them by the same Indians; it is also supposed the same party has robbed Mr. A. Randall, of the United States geological corps; they plundered him of most of his property; he has filed a bill of $419 75 against those Indians in this office. For the security of the frontier settlements, and to our Indians, it would be well to have that party of depredators apprehended and punished for their bad treatment to the white people. By order of Capt. Eastman, one of the Sioux was arrested that was accused of aiding to murder three white men near the mouth of Black river, Wisconsin. The prisoner has confessed that there were two Sioux, and two Winnebagoes, that killed the white man. Those facts seem to have been known here for some time, but nothing was done until August last; as I was on my way down to St. Louis, I was informed by Mr. Bay that one of them was then near his residence and could be had. I requested him to make this known to Capt. Eastman as soon as possible, and he done so; and he was apprehended as before mentioned. I would call your attention to the subject, and have the murderer sent for, and brought to justice. The prisoner gives the following names as the murderers of Winnebagoes: one he calls Ugly Nose, or Payah Sheechah, supposed to be Red Bird; the other he calls Pah-haykee of the Sioux. He calls one Omah-haw-kuta, he that kills the Omahaw. This is the Indian that was supposed, or accused, of killing the sheriff of Prairie du Chien; the other Sioux is the prisoner's brother, who has been killed by one of the Sioux recently.

Such wholesale slaughter as this should be stopped as soon as possible, and I would most respectfully recommend this subject to your favorable consideration, that new orders be given to all the commanding officers of the northern posts, as well as agents and sub-agents, to have those murderers apprehended, as they have gone to the Missouri and upper Mississippi. There seems to be a great opposition to schools by the chiefs of several of the bands, and it is believed by many that this opposition is greatly increased by some telling them that if they will still hold out, and continue to ask for the additional five thousand dollars that is in the President's hands, and is to be expended in such manner as he may direct. Which I hope will be stopped in future, by his letter to them. I will have it explained to them by the interpreter, in a few days.

The school taught by Miss Jane Lamont, at Oak Grove, this year, has not been attended as well as formerly; the whole number of

scholars being only 18, and an average of 6 for the whole time. The causes for this falling off are various; the particulars will be found in the report of Rev. G. H. Pond.

The thirteenth annual report of mission station, at Lacquiparle, under the care of Rev. S. R. Riggs, missionary of A. B. C. F. M., has been discontinued for a time, and they have had to hire or employ native teachers at several of the villages. It is stated in the report that the Indians have raised a good crop of corn this season, and request some farming utensils from the government. For further particulars, I would refer you to the report.

From the report of the Rev. Robert Hopkins, at Traverse de Sioux, a station of the A. B. C. F. M, education appears to be discouraging at that post; but speak of the Indians as having shown considerable disposition to learn to farm, and are anxious for the government to give them some farming implements to work with. It seems to me that if government would send them, and all others of the Sioux that would show a disposition to cultivate the soil, it would have a very salutary effect upon them, and encourage others to follow the example. The report of the Rev. Thomas S. Williamson has not been handed in as yet, but will be forwarded as soon as it comes to hand. The six remaining farmers will be dismissed the 15th of this month. Which is most respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

R. G. MURPHY,
Indian Sub-agent.

Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,
Superintendant Indian affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 8—A.

Thirteenth Annual Report of the Mission Station at Lacquiparle, under the care of the A. B. C. F. M.

Lacquiparle, Aug. 30, 1848.

Laborers, S. R. Riggs, A. M. Missionary, and Mrs. Riggs; Jonas Pettijohn, farmer, and Mrs. Pettijohn.

Within the last year it has been found impracticable, owing to the situation of the Indians, to keep up the Dacotah school at the mission station, as much of the time as in former years. The deficiency in this respect I have endeavored to meet, in part, at least, by employing native teachers at the villages. This system worked pretty well for about two months last fall, during gathering, in which time I paid nearly $60 to three young men engaged at three different villages. At two of the villages, I have two employed again this fall. Owing to the inexperience of the teachers, and other circumstances, the children have not made the progress that we could have wished. Still I am persuaded that we must look chiefly to native teaching, in future, to accomplish the work of edu-

cation among this people. Education is not valued as it ought to be, even by those who have learned to read, and one reason undoubtedly is, that it has not been brought into use. The "*Cui bono*" is not yet understood by them, and it will not be, until the schoolmaster from among themselves is abroad in the land. It seems to me that our government ought to adopt some vigorous plan of education among the Mendawakantons.

The Indians at this place, raised a very large crop of corn last year, but owing to the presence of about fifty strange Indians for a good part of the winter and spring, it was pretty much all consumed before they finished planting. The buffalo visited this region in the latter part of December, on their journey to the south. They were abundant all winter and spring, and still are to be found on the Coteau de Prairies, some fifty or sixty miles from this place. In this state of things I was fearful that our Indians would plant less corn than usual, with the expectation that buffalo would certainly visit them next winter, as they have done for two years past. But I am happy to say that my fears were not realized. More ground is under cultivation than formerly, and with the prospect of a very good crop. Some hired new fields to be ploughed; a few asked and received assistance from the mission in breaking their own horses into the plough. This, we think, is not labour spent in vain. Our wish is to teach them to help themselves. On this subject, I think the remarks of the Superintendent of Indian Affairs at St. Louis, on the 103d page of the last report, are worthy of the serious consideration and action of the government. It should be our object to make men of them, and not keep them babies; *ploughing for them is not teaching them to plough.*

In my last year's report, I mentioned that the Indians in this neighborhood and above needed some ploughs. At the villages here, a plough which many years ago was furnished by Colonel Bruce, this last spring Mr. Pettijohn stocked anew, but the irons are nearly worn out, and we are not in the vicinity of a blacksmith. We have two ploughs belonging to the mission which the Indians have had the use of. Last spring we were begged very hard by the Indians at the trading post on Big Stone lake to let one of our ploughs go up there, but we could not. I would again request that two new light ploughs be furnished for this place, and two more for the villages at Big Stone lake and Lake Traverse, also collars and hames, trace chains, singletree irons, and stretchers—some good hoes, too, would be a capital present.

Yours, truly,

S. R. RIGGS,

Missionary of A. B. C. F. M.

RICHARD G. MURPHY,

U. S. Indian Sub-agent, Saint Peter's.

No. 8—B.

Oak Grove,
September 2, 1848.

Dear Sir: In compliance with the rules of the Indian Department, I send you the following report of the mission school at this place:

The school is taught by Miss Jane Lamont, whose father (an Englishman) died about twelve years since.

Miss Lamont has lived in our family four or five years past as one of our children, and, for the last two years, has been principal teacher in the native school.

Five of the children who formerly attended the school, and had made considerable progress in learning to read, died last year. Ten or twelve others have left this place and reside in other villages. A few others who have learned to read in their own language, having arrived at that age when they feel ridicule and lay it to heart, have, on this account, left the school to forget what they have learned, and, perhaps, to be living demonstrations in the eyes of some, of the impossibility of doing Indians any good by instructing them in the art of reading. For these reasons, the number of scholars in attendance, during the last year, has been only about half as great as formerly reported. The school, however, has been in operation near two months longer than any former year. The attendance is very irregular, and, consequently, the children make but slow progress. The school has been taught between five and six months this year.

The whole number of scholars is eighteen; average attendance about six, daily.

The expense of the school for the year, including tuition, house room, fuel, books, &c., is $100, paid by the A. B. C. F. M. Two or three who formerly attended school were taught to read the English language. At present they reside at another place, and the Dacotah (Sioux) language only is taught. The fear of the Indians generally, that if they allow their children to be instructed, their own money will go to defray the expense, and the apprehension that knowledge imparted to their children will overthrow their religion, which has its foundation in ignorance, and with it a class of persons who now rule the nation, are sufficient motives to induce by far the largest part of the Indians to oppose schools, an almost insurmountable obstacle. There are some among them who are better disposed, and in private manifest considerable anxiety to see schools established, but are prevented from openly favoring them through fear of offending the priesthood, and bringing themselves into disrepute. These desire to have their children instructed, but fear responsibilities. It is my decided opinion that if schools could be established on such a plan as to make it appear to the Indians generally that the United States government was responsible, or, at least, so as not to throw any apparent responsibility on any class or individuals among themselves, these last named persons would immediately avail themselves of the benefits

of such schools with great satisfaction; when, at the same time, if consulted on this subject in public council, would either say nothing at all, or else study to avoid offending their own people.

I do not think the number of this class is very considerable, but yet that it would be sufficient to furnish children for a boarding-school on a small scale, and if judiciously managed it would not be long before the children generally might be collected into manual labor schools, when they could be fed, clothed, and instructed at their own expense principally, without any serious difficulty.

As long as the Indians see any hesitancy on the part of the government on this subject, they will probably hold on for the money, and against schools; but if the government can take a decided stand, and by open action convince the Indians of such decision, their opposition would soon die away, and if they did not all submit to it cheerfully, they would yet submit with their significant *Takomni*, as they do to what is called fate.

Respectfully yours,
GIDEON H. POND.

Major MURPHY.

No. 8—C.

KAPOJA, *September*, 1848.

DEAR SIR: I present the following brief report of our operations at Traverse de Sioux, a station of the A. B. C. F. M. We have been able to have but very little schooling—so little as to make it unnecessary to speak of it particularly. We have had on the Sabbath, during the past year, (with few exceptions,) public worship of GOD, consisting of preaching, singing, and prayers. These exercises have been conducted in the Dacotah language, without the aid of an interpreter. The average attendance of per ons of a suitable age to profit by these exercises has been nine; the mission families and persons occasionally present, who are not acquainted with the Dacotah language, are of course not included. We hope the preached gospel has not been without its influence, though no one seems to have experienced a change of heart.

In our efforts to help these people to help themselves in secular things we have seen more apparent success. About twelve acres of land has been ploughed and planted chiefly in corn; as much as half of the ploughing was done with Indian ponies, the Indians themselves assisting. If they had been well supplied with ploughs and gears, I think more land would have been ploughed.

A little ploughing was done by the chief, *Mozaxa*, with his own horse, and only Indian help. Several also furrowed their ground into rows without any assistance from white men, and ploughed their corn when it had grown to a suitable size. Among a savage

people the idea of advancement is generally wanting. So soon as the idea of progress is fixed in their minds it may truly be said something has been done. Our people have been acquiring ideas relative to the practicability of cultivating the soil and the best means of doing so, and are employing their hands in labor in a manner that their fathers did not, and they would not, but for the assistance and instruction they have received. Indeed, it was not until we had ploughed their lands repeatedly, and had talked to them often and earnestly on the subject, that we could induce them to employ their own teams in ploughing their own lands.

We are now in need of some farming utensils, and are much gratified to hear that the Department are disposed to give us some gear, ploughs, and hoes. Some of the Indians in this vicinity may not feel much interest in the acquisition of these implements, but many feel the want of them deeply, and would be delighted to receive them; and if the government would furnish some, and exhort the people to use them if they wished to avoid starvation, we are decidedly of opinion that it would operate as an encouragement, a stimulus and an assistant.

As to particulars on this head, I will write to Major Harvey, St. Louis.

We have also been permitted to see some improvement in buildings. This, though small, merits notice as a commencement. Last spring two of our Indians, *Mazaxa* and his brother, built themselves log cabins. They cut the logs, and assisted in hauling them and putting them up; they plastered the cracks, and roofed them after the Indian fashion. *Mazaxa* has also a store-house commenced, which he will probably soon finish.

With respect, yours truly,

ROBERT HOPKINS.

Colonel R. G. MURPHY.

No. 8—D.

Report of Indian schools at Maposia, for the year ending September 28, 1848.

DEAR SIR: Agreeably to your request I submit the following statistics of the schools at this place. The schools were commenced May the 8th, immediately after our arrival, and were continued until September the 1st, at which time the Indians went away; making the time taught four months.

Male department.—Whole number enrolled, 27; average daily attendance for eighty days, 10.

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Female department, taught by Miss Jane S. Williamson.—Whole number enrolled, 31; average daily attendance for eighty days, 13.

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A want of interest always fails to produce application. Where

there is no motive, progress is necessarily slow. I fear but little can be done while the Indians continue their roving habits; but if a beginning is not made, there will be no result; and if the Indians are to be civilized, we must expect to commence with them as they are, not as we desire they should be. Yet there are a few who begin to see the advantages of civilized life, and act accordingly. We hope their number may be increased.

Yours, respectfully,

SYLVESTER M. COOK.

Major MURPHY,
Indian agent, St. Peter's.

No. 9.

GREAT NEMAHA SUB-AGENCY,
September 28, 1848.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor to submit herewith my annual report of the condition of the Indians under my charge within this sub-agency.

According to the census taken at the last spring's payment of annuities, the Iowas number six hundred and sixty-nine, and the Sacs and Foxes one hundred and forty-nine. This, however, does not exceed half the actual number of the latter tribe, many of whom have temporarily attached themselves to the Sacs and Foxes on the Osage river, since their removal to that place.

When I took charge of this sub-agency in May last, I found the Indians a drunken and reckless people, particularly the Iowas. I have held several councils with them, and have neglected no opportunity of impressing upon their minds the innumerable evils resulting from their frequent indulgence in drinking. I flatter myself that my counsels have had a very happy effect, an obvious change for the better being already apparent. The chiefs and head men of both tribes have been constantly on the watch to detect every person, white or red, who might introduce liquor into the country, for several weeks past. I am pleased to say that their efforts have not been unsuccessful. Through information derived from them I was enabled, a few weeks ago, to apprehend three notorious whiskey sellers in an Indian lodge, near the hour of midnight. With a strong guard, I safely delivered them to the United States deputy marshal at St. Joseph, Mo., with such instructions as may enable him to prosecute them successfully.

The Sacs and Foxes are well provided for, having raised an abundant crop of corn and wheat, with the assistance of their farmer. Beside the produce of the present year, they have a large surplus of wheat of last year's crop. The mill built and put in operation during last winter and spring is kept running more than half the time, and affords them a full supply of meal and flour, besides grinding some for the Iowas when the Sacs permit it to be done.

The Iowas are not so well provided for as the Sacs, having no regular farmer. The land which was ploughed for them last spring was very nearly all planted, but much of it very late, owing to the excitement in the tribe about the time of planting, occasioned by their success in killing a few Pawnees. The drunkenness and debauchery which followed that barbarous transaction rendered them nearly all unfit for labor, or any kind of business, for some weeks afterwards. I think, from what I have seen, that they will have sufficient to carry them through the winter, after which they are not likely to suffer until the spring payment. I believe, as a tribe, they are easily managed, and they show every disposition to receive instruction. If their greatest curse, whiskey, can be kept out of their country, I entertain strong hopes of seeing their moral condition much improved in a few years. They have been quite sober and quiet for the last six weeks, ever since the arrest of the whiskey traders among them.

Enclosed you will receive the report of the missionaries who are located in this sub-agency. Their report will speak for itself. I cannot, however, forbear giving my unqualified testimony to the fidelity and untiring zeal with which these people discharge the important and arduous duties committed to their charge. The manual labor boarding school numbers at present thirty scholars, male and female. It is truly an interesting spectacle to witness their deportment, whether in school or out. Their manners and appearance would compare advantageously with the same number of children anywhere within the confines of civilization. At the chapel, divine service is publicly performed twice during the week. The deportment of the children on such occasions is also worthy of the highest commendation. In fact, I may say, without the least hesitation, that from the system pursued by the misionaries, great and lasting good must, and *inevitably will*, be the result of their labors. In so laudable and praiseworthy an effort, I promise my own hearty and constant co-operation.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

ALFRED J. VAUGHAN.
Indian Sub-agent.

Hon. T. H. Harvey,
Superintendent, &c., St. Louis, Mo.

No. 9—A.

Iowa and Sac Mission,
September 25, 1848.

Dear Sir: At present we have twenty-nine scholars in regular attendance at our school. Of these, 1 is studying English grammar and geography, 10 read, 14 spell, and 4 are yet in their letters.

These children are all connected with the Iowa tribe, except two, who are from the Blackfeet nation. A number of them are

learning to write, and succeed very well. About one-half of the teaching and learning is done in the Iowa language, and the other in the English. This seems to combine the advantages of giving them useful ideas in their own language, which they can understand, and at the same time of gradually introducing the English language. The teaching we do ourselves, dividing it equally between us.

The scholars have memorized in their own language a number of hymns, which they sing with ease; and also a good collection of questions, which they answer with readiness. Most of the boys are small, and unable to do much on the farm; but we find them as willing to do what they can as white boys of the same age. The little girls are quite industrious in the kitchen, and are making good progress in learning to do house and needle work.

Our help for carrying on the mission and school with the wages allowed, is as follows:

Wm. Hamilton and wife	$200	per year.
S. M. Irvin and wife	200	" "
John Meyers and wife	200	" "
Two hired girls, $50 each	100	" "
	700	

There are also seven white children in the mission family, who have an allowance of $25 each—$175.

We have, likewise, the privilege of hiring, as may be needed, another hand on the farm, and also what additional kitchen help may be necessary.

Since March last, the school has averaged twenty-five scholars in regular attendance, and our mission family during the same time (including white children and hired help) has been about seventeen. This makes our whole family forty-two persons, besides transient visiters and what has been given to the destitute Indians. Our entire expense for subsisting and taking care of this family for one year, ending the 30th June last, was as follows:

Hired help on the farm	$157 00
Hired help in the kitchen	133 00
Provisions	439 64
Contingencies	85 78
	815 42

This sum divided among the individuals of the whole family, (forty-two,) will show the cost of each to be $19 41½; and, if divided among the scholars alone, it will give the cost of each at $32 61½ for the year. This, it will be seen, is exclusive of clothing and medicine, and also the salaries of the missionaries.

Other duties have prevented us from giving much time to the printing press during the past year. The main work done upon it has been printing a small grammar of the Iowa language. This

is a small work of over 150 pages, intended to assist in getting a knowledge of the principles of the Iowa and Ottoe language. Including this work, we have printed during the year over 30,000 pages.

This is, perhaps, all the statistical information that may be interesting to you. We might now tell you of our difficulties and prospects, and philosophize on the management of missions and mission schools among the Indians; but we desist from such details, indulging only in the one general remark, that we are in several respects encouraged in our work, and have no cause to regret our undertaking. The scholars are much more regular in their attendance than they were during the preceding year, and manifest an increased disposition to remain; though we are not less rigid in our discipline, or more kind in our treatment of them than formerly. Some are now disposed to come whom we are rather unwilling to take, on account of their age and former habits. And when you shall be able to put a number of the poor little helpless orphans of the nation into our hands, beyond the control of their relatives, it will be a pleasure to us, and, we trust, a blessing to them.

We cannot close without adverting to the happy blow you have struck at the nefarious whiskey trade. The arrest of the three vagrant whiskey traders in the Iowa village has had a most happy effect in arresting the progress of this consuming plague of the poor Indian.

A strict adherence to, and the prompt execution of, the judicious principles which you have laid down to the Indians on this subject, cannot fail to produce a new era in their history.

Assuring you of our most hearty concurrence and co-operation in this work, and desiring that every comfort and blessing may attend you, we are, dear sir, most affectionately and sincerely, yours, &c.,

S. M. IRVIN.
WM. HAMILTON.

Colonel A. J. Vaughan.

No. 10.

Wyandot Sub-Indian Agency,
October 1, 1848.

Sir: In pursuance of the regulations of the Department, I herewith transmit my annual report upon the condition of the Wyandot nation of Indians under this sub-agency.

It affords me sincere pleasure to be able to inform you that the general condition of this interesting tribe has considerably improved within the past year.

The year now closed has been remarkable for the almost entire absence of disease and mortality among this people; in my last

report I alluded to the loss of some of their best men by disease incident to all new countries; and I consider it here not unworthy of remark that they have escaped these sufferings and loss of life; the contrast between this and the preceding years in this respect is obvious and striking.

This may be accounted for in part, from the fact that the health of the people in upper Missouri generally has been good; to this may be added that the Wyandots are becoming more comfortably situated, better and more comfortable dwellings, living better, and becoming more careful of wanton and unnecessary exposure, the necessity of which many have learned by past experience; in January last, however, they lost one of their most active, useful, and influential chiefs, in the person of Henry Jacquis, extensively known in Ohio and at Washington city, where he has frequently been sent as a delegate for the nation on public business.

It is truly gratifying to notice the evidences of industry and general thrift which display themselves on every hand amongst this people; they have raised large crops and a greater variety of vegetables and grains this season than any former one; the judgment, skill, and neatness with which they cultivate their lands are worthy of praise and commendation. The system, order, and comfort, which mark their dwellings, the appearances of good living, the neatness and cleanliness of their children, speak volumes in praise of the Wyandot women as good housekeepers, and efficient domestic economists.

It is nothing uncommon to see families of well dressed and respectable white people from within the State, paying friendly visits to, and enjoying the hospitalities of, Wyandot families with the greatest cordiality imaginable.

The two schools in the nation have been kept up without intermission, and an increase in the number of pupils. For three months during the past winter a third school was in operation, got up expressly for the more advanced scholars in the nation, where the higher branches were taught, the expense of which were in part made up by individual subscription, and the remainder paid out of the national school fund.

Although I stated in my last report that this fund (of $500 per annum) "for educational purposes," was amply sufficient, yet upon reviewing that opinion, and the number of children in the nation, candor compels me to agree with the directors of the national schools, that a third one is absolutely necessary; hence an addition of some $250 or more, out of their annuity, will become necessary for this purpose.

Besides the pupils taught in these schools, there are many attending the manual labor school in the Shawnee nation. Some attending the school kept by the Friends or Quakers, and some attending academies and seminaries in the State of Missouri.

During the past summer, some dissension has existed among the members of the church arising out of the division of the Methodist Episcopal church, which took place four years ago, by which a line of separation, separating the slaveholding from the non-slavehold-

ing territories, was agreed upon by the general conference of that church; by this prudential arrangement, all the Indian missions west of the States of Missouri and Arkansas, &c., under the patronage of that church were thrown into the southern division and under the pastoral care of the Methodist Episcopal church south. By the history of this church arrangement or ecclesiastical legislation, it appears that at the last quadennial session, held in May last, the northern division, in its separate capacity, abrogated and annulled the *plan of separation* mutually agreed upon four years previous, and intend to invade the territory of the former.

From information on which I can rely, it appears that certain clergymen in Ohio, with a view to the furtherance of their plans, have been corresponding with such Wyandots as they were acquainted with and could be influenced; these communications are doubtless well seasoned with abolitionism, with a view of stirring up disaffection and discord among the people, and through them, among the Delawares, Shawnees, and Kickapoos, among which the southern division has missionary establishments; this movement has not been without its effects, especially among the Wyandots, who are, to a limited extent, slaveholders themselves, in producing strife and contention, not among the membership only, but through the nation generally.

A memorial was forwarded, not long since, by the disaffected members, addressed to the Ohio Annual Conference, praying the appointment of a preacher from that body, to reside among them as missionary.

A protest addressed to the same body was shortly afterwards adopted and forwarded by the nation, protesting against any interference in their affairs, and warning that body of the disastrous consequences that might follow them, from such agitations which would grow out of the stationing of a preacher from the north, when they were already supplied by the Indian mission conference.

The whole movement has no doubt originated in abolitionism, which seldom hesitates at the means to accomplish its purposes.

Should a preacher be sent here from the north (Ohio) contrary to the wishes of the nation, and he have no other authority than that given him by that conference, and he present himself, I shall be compelled, (in this novel case,) in the absence of special instructions, to enforce the "intercourse laws," however unpleasant it may be to my feelings.

Notwithstanding those engaged in the getting up this unpleasant state of things act with great energy, (an energy and perseverance worthy of a better cause,) and no little bitterness of feeling, I am bound in candor to believe, that their actions are prompted by an honest though a misguided zeal; their course of conduct proves conclusively, to my mind, that it is far easier to reason men into error than out of it.

Upon the subject of the new mode adopted in the payment of annuities, which last year seemed to be viewed with disfavor by some of the Wyandots, it is gratifying to state, that the "excite-

ment," alluded to in my last report, has entirely subsided. The first semi-annual payment was made last May, and the mode of payment (as per instructions) gave general satisfaction; the chief and main cause of dissatisfaction, during the payment made last fall, was the belief that obtained foothold among them, that the order for the payment or distribution of the whole amount of the annuity to the people, without regard to the public liabilities incurred, leaving their chiefs powerless and without means to meet those claims for which the nation was bound, was a step towards degrading their chiefs, destroying their government and their credit, and denationalizing them as a people. Such was the view taken at the time of the measure; but subsequent developements of the policy connected with this measure have convinced them of their error and allayed the irritation: this allowing their chiefs to make their annual appropriation of money for public purposes, which, when allowed by the Department, is taken out in bulk and paid over to the chiefs, and by them paid out according to their appropriation bill, thus securing an accountability from their chiefs of their public disbursements.

This measure, however, seems less necessary in this nation than in many others, as their chiefs are elected annually by the people, and are held to a strict accountability for their official conduct, and have been and are yet, as far as I know, correct and upright men.

At the late national election of chiefs, held on the 15th of August, I announced to the nation the information I received through a member of Congress, of the passage through both branches of Congress, of the joint resolution, confirming their purchase from the Delawares, of the territory on which they now reside; the intelligence was received with every manifestation of joy.

The long delay in sanctioning this purchase has been the means of retarding the nation, in some degree, in improvements; the uncertainty of the title, add to this the fact that the government had refused to erect any public buildings for the use of the employees of the government in the nation, was truly discouraging. This drawback to their enterprise being now removed, I anticipate a general spirit of enterprise and industry hereafter, the erection of many good buildings and other valuable improvements, and otherwise beautifying their beautiful country.

It is a matter of deep regret, that notwithstanding my efforts, seconded as I am by our chiefs, to suppress the fell, destroying vice of intemperance among this people, yet it still holds its hideous orgies.

From close observation, this vice seems to be confined to a particular class of persons, who may be said to be irreclaimably lost. It is, at least, some satisfaction, amidst unavailing regrets, to be able to say, that this class has not, through the season past, increased in numbers, nor do I look for a decrease, until death, which they are daily inviting, comes to their relief.

Within a few days, a grand council will be held in the Delaware territory, by the chiefs and head men of the following tribes of Indians, viz: Wyandots, Delawares, Shawnees, Kicka-

poos, Sacs and Foxes, Pottawatomies, Miamies, Kanzas, &c. The object of this appears to be, the adoption of measures promotive of peace, harmony, and good neighborhood; to concert measures to prevent and suppress acts of aggression upon the rights and property of each other, and to renew to each other the pledge of friendship, peace, and amity. Much good, it is hoped, will grow out of the deliberations of this congress of forest chieftains.

Although it will make the appearance of this report late, yet, for reasons which will be explained elsewhere, I have concluded not to forward it for some days; perhaps not until after the close of the above mentioned council; and, if so, I shall be able to give you a relation of their doings, &c.

October 20, 1848.

As I anticipated, I have delayed sending forward this paper until this time, but the contingency which was apprehended, and which caused the delay, has not, I am happy to say, occurred.

On my return from St. Louis with the annuity for this sub-agency, I learned that the council, before mentioned, was in session, and that the Wyandot council, through their head chief, had left a pressing request for me to attend. As soon as I could secure the funds in my possession, I repaired to the scene of operations; and, for grandeur of Indian costume, displayed on this occasion, the social and friendly feeling exhibited amongst the people there congregated, the enjoyment of the dance, and the great numbers engaged in them, contrasted with the sober and staid countenances of the older chiefs, the harmless countenance and the musical voice of the females present, was, altogether, such a scene as I had never witnessed, and one that my pen cannot describe.

Being the only officer of the Indian Department present, I was requested to address them, which I did, urging upon the indigenous or wilder tribes the necessity of joining their red brethren in the adoption of such wholesome measures as were calculated to promote peace and harmony, and a proper respect for each other's rights. I deeply regret that the Sacs, from some misapprehension and unfounded suspicions, suddenly left the council ground without explanation, and before the nature of their business had been fully explained; and, on the next day, while the council was in session, the Kanzas chief announced his intention of leaving that day with his people, whether the business was completed or not. I, at the request of their "great uncle," Captain Ketchum, remonstrated with him; pointed out the impropriety of such a course, and earnestly advised him to remain and hand in his wampum in person, and see the ultimatum of the council, as it would give his great father, the President, pain to hear of his conduct. This had its desired effect.

The following tribes entered into the league, or compact, viz: Wyandots, Delawares, Pottawatomies, Shawnees, Ottawas, Kicka-

poos, Miamies, Kanzas, Peorias, Weas, Piankeshaws, and Foxes. This ceremony took place on Sunday, the 17th; each chief handing in his wampum as his sign manual, or autograph. Hereupon, the council adjourned in due form, with an understanding that they meet again during the next season, when it is expected to obtain the attendance of many other tribes not represented at this.

After having witnessed this ceremony, and observing the devotion of our red friends on such occasions, I cannot but expect much good to result from yearly meetings of the kind, more especially should the Department think proper to encourage them in some substantial manner. And you will permit me to suggest that, in my opinion, it would be well for the Department to appropriate a small sum for the purpose of provisioning the Indians during such councils; it is not the amount that would so much benefit the Indians as this proof that the government favored their efforts in keeping up this congress of the different tribes which are in treaty with them.

Since my return from St. Louis, I have informed the Wyandot council of the addition of fifty dollars to their iron and steel fund, which gives great satisfaction. This amount annually added to the original amount will, in my opinion, be sufficient to furnish the shop with the necessary materials.

My annual census and statistical report will be forwarded at as early a day as possible.

I am, sir, yours, most respectfully,

RICHARD HEWITT,
Indian Sub-agent for Wyandots.

Major Thomas H. Harvey,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 11.

Choctaw Agency,
October 11, 1848.

Sir: In accordance with the regulations, I have the honor to report the condition of the different tribes within this superintendency.

Since my last annual report, one hundred and eighteen Choctaws have been emigrated from the States of Alabama and Mississippi, and settled in their country west. Of these, ninety-nine arrived in March and April last; the remaining nineteen in July and September. The parties that arrived in March and April received their scrip soon after their arrival. About half settled on the Arkansas, and the others went south to Red river. Those that remained here, nearly all built cabins and planted corn; but, by the time they had planted, it was too late in the season, with the amount of labor they were accustomed to give their crops, for the corn to yield them much in return for their industry. Those that went to Red river and planted corn made but little. The small

parties that arrived in July and September have also settled on the Arkansas and built cabins, and will be prepared, by the next season, to make a support from their little farms. Those of these last parties entitled to scrip received it shortly after their arrival. All that emigrated during the last year, and settled on the Arkansas and Red rivers, have enjoyed remarkably good health, and are much pleased with the country. The parties of Six Towns, and other clans that arrived west in June, 1847, also received their scrip in April, with few exceptions. They are represented to have good crops the present year; a fair proportion of them are said to be industrious and temperate—many belonging to religious societies. Like those that emigrated the present year, they have had unusual good health, and are well satisfied with the country.

The bad success experienced in effecting an emigration of the Choctaws from Alabama and Mississippi, during last fall and the early part of the winter, under the first regulations prescribed by the War Department, proved, at once, that they were not the kind suited to remove them to their new country west. Much opposition was unavoidably encountered by the assistant superintendent of emigration, Mr. Stuart, before their modification, and, finally, their abandonment altogether. But the present regulations, permitting all persons of proper character to embark in the emigration, is likely to do much good towards the removal of these people, as it is the only system, in my opinion, that can be adopted to effect it. With all the energy and perseverance of Mr. Stuart, and with all the influence he can bring to his assistance in this matter now, there is opposition still made by individuals who pretend to be interested in the scrip of the Indians. Many of them insisting that the scrip ought to be paid in Mississippi; and alleging that if such was the case all interference with these people would cease; and that their united energies would then be exerted to remove them west. This is plausible reasoning enough; but the true ground, as it is believed, of their opposition has not been told. These Indians are compelled to labor to some extent to procure the means of living. They are engaged, much of their time in the latter part of the year, in picking cotton from the field. Their labor cost the farmer but little; and hence arises the great opposition and interference of this class of persons, which are, by no means, small, with the emigration, under the mere pretext that they are interested in the Indians' scrip.

It is confidently believed that if the present system of removal had been authorized early last fall, large parties would have been emigrated then, if not the entire number of those that will ever emigrate under any circumstances. The information from Mr. Stuart upon this subject is, that the present prospect for emigration has greatly improved, and that large parties are expected to leave the old nation by the first or early in next month. Persons of influence among the Indians, I learn, are now engaged to conduct parties west, that have heretofore opposed removal in every form. And, from the efforts now being made, a large party is expected to arrive here by the first of December next. The Indians being

scattered over such an extensive scope of country, my own opinion is, that the emigration of them can only be effected in small parties of 50 or 100. Experiments that were made on more than one occasion in the past year, confirm this position as correct. Between 40 and 50 had been collected and were in camp, and the gentleman that expected to bring them on left camp for a few days, to see others and induce them, if possible, to join him. On his return, after an absence of only three or four days, his party had decreased in number from 40 or 50 down to 10. Outfits had been furnished to the greater part, if not to all, of those who abandoned the party. Whether this second thought of remaining east a while longer originated with them, or was the means employed by some of those persons affecting to be interested in the scrip of the Indians, is not known.

The late period at which the money was received for interest due to the Choctaws upon the funded half of their scrip, will, it is thought, prevent some of the most influential men among them from going to the old nation after their friends, as early this fall as they would otherwise go. Yet I hope all will go that may be able to induce one to emigrate. The receipt of the interest roll has given complete and universal satisfaction to all that I have seen or heard from since it came to hand. The opinion of many that had been here over a year, and had not received interest, was, that the amount would be lost to them, or it would be paid in such a manner and at such times that they could not depend upon it to benefit them much, if at all. As it is, all that have received scrip, even those who were paid it in April last, will draw interest up to the 1st of July, 1848. This fact, when known to those yet in Mississippi, will operate greatly in favor of emigration this fall and winter. Many of the principal men will go east for their friends and relations, and will urge it upon them to induce them to come west. Its effects will operate powerfully upon them, and will be difficult to combat by those that oppose emigration. If they were all here, their condition would be infinitely improved in every respect. The amount of interest due each, upon an estimated average, is about $8; and, although this amount is respectable as a per capita payment, yet it is not sufficient to support them without laboring to some extent.

In May last, when the money for the annuity due the Choctaws for the first half of the present year was received, the chiefs were notified to have the rolls taken in their districts respectively, and forwarded, to enable me to make the payments accordingly. Upon receiving the notice issued, councils were called in the districts, and the chiefs replied that their warriors were opposed to a division of the annuity, and desired that the first half should remain in my hands until the residue for the last half should be remitted, so the whole amount could be paid them at the same time. Two reasons influenced them to take this course.

First. The amount heretofore usually remitted for the purchase of rations was withheld; and second, that the payment, if made at all, would take place in the most busy season of the year; which

might be the means of many of the poorer class, and those least able to bear it, of losing their crops. That this would have been the case, to some extent, I have no doubt, though it would have been confined more to the improvident and reckless than to the temperate and industrious portions of that class. I am well satisfied, from my experience and observation among the Indians, that the payment of annuities should take place among them as a body as seldom as the nature and circumstances of their condition will allow. It is a part of the character of the Indians to idle away much time, and money, too, if they have it, at those annual payments; and it follows, as a matter of course, that if they should be made semi-annually, the evil would be increased in the same ratio. It is doubtful with many familiar with the habits of the Indians, if annuities are of any permanent advantage to them in any case. This reasoning may appear absurd to some; but take the whole circumstances together, of benefit derived from them on the one hand, and the evil growing out of them on the other, and it is very questionable on which side the balance will be found.

One of the most difficult matters presented since my appointment, to accomplish, has been that of taking of a "census and statistical information of the Choctaws." Steps were taken a year ago, which were confidently hoped would effect this object, and which, I now regret to say, failed altogether to obtain the information sought. But, nevertheless, I have still endeavored on all occasions to make such arrangements as I thought would certainly succeed in effecting the completion of it at an early day. However, I have been again disappointed. But I believe now, in the midst of my labors in it, I shall be aided by the "general council" to accomplish it, I hope in a manner satisfactory to the Department. It will be urged by the chiefs and head men in council, and the importance of the measure pressed upon the consideration of that body, to appoint competent natives in each captain's company to take a census of the same, and as much of the statistical information as it shall be thought they can take with certainty and correctness. This help from the Choctaws will be opportune, and will enable me some time during the winter or spring to present as full a report as could be expected on the subject. As the tribe advances in civilization and education, opportunities will offer from time to time to make additions to it, until the whole shall present a correct result of the facts embraced in the resolution of the House of Representatives calling for the same.

The "old" and "new settlers" have been remarkably healthy during the last year. I regret to learn, however, that the corn crop of the present year will be short, yet a surplus is anticipated, but it will not be so large as that of last year. In a letter received from an intelligent trader in the south part of the nation, he says: The corn crop is unusually short, and it is impossible to state the number of bushels that could be called a surplus. He adds that about 300 bales of cotton will be made this year, principally by the late emigrants. An estimate of the present cotton crop with that of last year shows a balance of near 300 bales in favor of this

year. This fact argues well for the industry of the country. The Choctaws have a delightful country—good soil, and a climate favorably adapted to the growing of corn, cotton, wheat, &c.

The licensed traders among the Choctaws have kept large stocks of goods on hand during the last year, and have sold to the Indians at fair, reasonable prices. No complaints have been made against any of them for any violence or infraction of the intercourse law. The Indians are well satisfied that a fair competition among the traders is the surest means of goods being sold to them at fair and reasonable prices, and desire, as far as I have any knowledge on the subject, the continuance of all the establishments located in their country. These trading houses open to them a constant market for all the surplus produce raised—thereby encouraging industry among them. Also all other articles they have to dispose of, such as hides, peltries, furs, tallow, beeswax, &c., are either exchanged to the traders for goods, or sold for cash.

A change in the criminal laws of the nation is being discussed in the "general council" now in session, in relation to the mode of inflicting capital punishment, and it is hoped that the change will be effected. It is proposed that hanging shall be the mode in future, instead of shooting, as now provided for by law. If this is effected in the criminal laws, much good must necessarily flow from it. The crime of murder is not regarded at all, and the commission of it is thought by many to be rapidly on the increase among these people, and is becoming too common to let it remain longer without imposing restraints sufficient to check it. They do not appear to regard the consequences of death by being shot, while the mode of inflicting it by hanging creates in the Indian race generally, if not always, an unusual degree of fear.

The introduction of whiskey is still carried on to a considerable extent among the Indians, it being easily procured by them along the line, and in the States of Texas and Arkansas, from traders and grocery keepers. It is a traffic with these people that should and ought to be suppressed; and there is no mode that I can devise that would so fully and completely check it as the one suggested by the War Department a year ago, in a letter addressed to the governors of Arkansas, Missouri, and Iowa. It is believed that a greater quantity of ardent spirits now finds its way into the Choctaw country from Texas than Arkansas. All admit that its use is a great and ruinous evil, and retards much the prosperity of the Indians; and it is hoped that there is sufficient liberality and public spirit in the legislatures of the above States to concede to the general government the jurisdiction of all offences committed within their limits, by their citizens, against a wholesome and judicious law, to prevent the sale of it to Indians in quantities no matter how small. It is the opinion of many, however, that its introduction is now less than it has been for some years. But when its introduction will cease, there is no means of knowing.

That the Choctaws are improving as a people, there is no question. To what extent this improvement has reached can be better understood from the reports of those who have spent the most of a

long life immediately in their country, and with them. To place this important fact before the Department in as clear a light as possible, I avail myself of the occasion offered of making extracts from the reports of superintendents of schools, and of adding my own observations among them. It all proves that their moral, social, and religious condition is unquestionably improving. A respectable number of small schools are established, and taught by natives, in different parts of the nation. The Rev. Mr. Kingsbury says a great desire is manifested by the Choctaws for the education of their children. Many neighborhood schools have been established, which are taught by natives in their own language. These schools are attended both by adults and children. Mr. Copeland, the teacher in the Norwalk school, says "that it has been an object with us to cultivate, as far as possible, their social feelings, and our efforts have been crowned with a good degree of success." The Rev. Mr. Byington remarks "that the great subjects of temperance and industry demand attention at all times in this land. At times our people are very zealous in the cause of temperance, and are very successful." He adds, "that many Choctaws are industrious, and are improving very fast, while others are idle. In our schools, and in our religious assemblies, we think we see evidences of a great change for the better." The Rev. Mr. Potts states, "that there is a gradual improvement in the people in our vicinity. They desire to receive instruction, and have, of their own accord, established a Saturday and Sabbath school, taught by a native. Though intemperance prevails in this nation, in this neighborhood I have not known of a single case of drunkenness." Take the nation as a whole, so far as my knowledge extends, and there appears to be a gradual advancement in religion, morals, education, and industry.

By the report of Colonel Upshaw, Chickasaw agent, it will be seen that the health of that tribe has been good the past year, and that they are in a prosperous condition. Fifty-two have emigrated during the year from the old nation east, to the Choctaw nation west; a part settling among the Choctaws and the remainder in their own district. In February last, thirteen Chickasaw boys were taken to the Choctaw academy in Kentucky, and a like number that were there at school returned home. I presume that the Chickasaws have good reason to complain, in many cases, of the conduct of roving bands of Indians that pass through their country, and who no doubt commit many depredations against their property, as well as occasionally steal a pony from them, and the party of Cherokees referred to are not free from the justice of this accusation. The misunderstanding represented to exist between the Choctaws and Chickasaws arises, I presume, not so much from the Choctaw laws extended over the Chickasaw district, as from a disposition of the latter to complain under any circumstances. The laws of the nation are the same; it makes no difference whether the offender be a Choctaw or Chickasaw. And therefore, the Choctaws will not, under any circumstances, assent to any change within their own country, that would suspend the jurisdiction and opera-

tion of their laws over a part of it. Such an act would be regarded by them as a national sacrifice, and one that they will not make. I do not see that any permanent good could result from a withdrawal of the blacksmith shops, at present established in the Choctaw districts, solely for the benefit of the Chickasaws who prefer to live there. These tribes have intermarried, and under the convention between them the members of each have a perfect right to settle where they please within the limits of the Choctaw country. The building for the manual labor school, authorized to be established in their district, has not been pushed forward as fast as could have been desired. However, many inconveniences have been encountered by the superintendent, which has delayed the work. Materials, workmen, and lumber, have been difficult to obtain. No time is stated when this school will go into operation. I regret, exceedingly, that the introduction of whiskey has increased among the Chickasaws within the past year. Their corn is represented to be excellent and will yield a large surplus. It is worth about fifty cents per bushel.

It is highly gratifying to learn that the Creeks are improving rapidly in civilization and agriculture, and that there is a new impulse and an increased degree of energy manifested in the cause of education among them. Their old habits and superstitious notions are gradually giving way, and in their place a lively interest is taken in the advancement of their children in the useful branches of education and industry. Their agent speaks in flattering terms of the schools established among them, and that much permanent good has been effected by them in enlightening and Christianizing these people. Their crops have been injured by the drought, but an abundance will be made to meet the demand for home consumption. There is still a traffic in whiskey carried on among them, but it is thought to a much less extent than formerly, and intoxication or drunkenness from it is not so common. Sixty-four Creek emigrants arrived in their new country west, the present year, and they all express themselves as being well pleased with it, generally, and no serious cases of sickness have been reported among them. The unfriendly feeling that prevailed for a while between the Creeks and Seminoles, and at one time came very near producing an open rupture with the tribes, has been, through the influence and attention of their agents, aided by the Creek chiefs, so managed that it is thought it will eventually be settled to the satisfaction of both parties.

It will be seen from the report of the sub-agent for Quapaws, Senecas, and Senecas and Shawnees, that they have been healthy also the present year, and that their crops are good. They show evident signs of improvement in civilization and agriculture. The Quapaws have established among them a manual labor school, which is represented to be well conducted and popular, and gaining influence with the tribe. Many show an increased interest in the education of their children, while all approve it. As yet, the Senecas and Senecas and Shawnees have opposed the establishment of schools; but as they are now represented to be improving also in

agriculture, a hope is entertained that they can be influenced to yield their notions of opposition to a measure of such importance, and that schools will be established among them before a great while. The annuity to these tribes for the first half of the present year has been recently paid them.

I cannot give you any information of the Cherokee, Seminole, and Osage agencies, not having received any report from the agents of these tribes. However, from other sources I learn that no material changes have taken place since my last report. Mr. Duval, Seminole sub-agent, has not yet returned to his post, having been detained in South Carolina by sickness. He is now daily expected to arrive. Should reports be received from these agents, they will be forwarded immediately, and I regret that my absence will prevent me from accompanying them with such remarks as might appear necessary.

The annuities last year were paid to heads of families in accordance with your instruction, except to the Creeks, where it was paid directly to the chiefs, as provided for in the treaties with that tribe. All the tribes within this superintendency opposed a division of their annuities into semi-annual payments. They desire it all paid to them at one time, and that time to be as early in the month of October, in each year, as it may be found practicable to do it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. RUTHERFORD,
Acting Superintendent Western Territory.

Hon. W. Medill,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington city.

No. 11—A.

Choctaw Agency, *October* 11, 1848.

Sir: I have the honor to submit a general view of the reports of the superintendents of schools, received at this office, in accordance with your instruction of July last.

Fort Coffee academy is situated on a beautiful and commanding eminence, and immediately on the Arkansas river, about five miles from the agency. It is under the superintendence of the Rev. W. L. McAlister, and is divided into two branches: one for boys, at Fort Coffee, and the other for girls, at New Hope, distant about five miles, and from the agency one mile. Each of these schools has been well managed, and have acquired, in the past year, an increased reputation. Of the scholars attending them, much might be said of their general progress and advancement. Ninety-five have attended during the last year. Of these eighty-five are reported as the number boarded and furnished with everything at the expense of the nation and the missionary society, at both institutions. Ten were day scholars from the neighborhood, being boarded and furnished by their parents or friends. The studies at Fort Coffee have been reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, English gram-

mar, chemistry, algebra, geometry, and Latin grammar. The studies in the female branch at New Hope have been the same, except chemistry, algebra, geometry, and the Latin grammar. I am informed by some of the Choctaw trustees, and other persons present at the examination in June last, and who are competent to judge, that the scholars at Fort Coffee acquitted themselves well, and reflected credit upon their teachers. Parents and guardians were highly pleased and gratified at the result. The examination at the female institution at New Hope, upon the different branches of education studied, gave full, complete, and entire satisfaction. It has elicited public opinion strongly in its favor, and renders the teachers universally popular with all, and especially so with those having children at it. Mr. and Mrs. Maris are the teachers in the seminary. Much credit is due Miss Carter for the general good deportment of the girls out of school. They were under her charge, and were instructed in sewing, knitting, &c., and in the general labors of domestic industry. It is not too much praise to say that the care and responsibility with which she has been charged was efficiently and well performed, and that the garments exhibited at the examination were well and skilfully made.

The Rev. Mr. McAlister says, "at the examination at this place (Fort Coffee) the attendance of parents, friends, &c., was more numerous than usual, which argues an increased interest on the part of the Choctaws" in the schools; * * * "and that, after the experiments already made, the friends of benevolence, and the Choctaws, have nothing to fear from the efforts being made in this nation to educate their children. Indeed, many of them in our schools manifest a capability to receive a finished education." The boys at Fort Coffee labor a part of their time upon the farm, which is in good condition.

The Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury is superintendent of the Chuahla female seminary at Pine Ridge, near Fort Towson. This institution has suffered, since my last report, from the effects of a destructive and frightful tornado. The extent of the damage sustained by it is well condensed in the report of the superintendent, and I shall, therefore, describe it in his own language. He says, "the circumstances under which I am called to report the present year are very different from what they have before been. On the 19th of March last, the station occupied by the seminary was visited by a terrific and destructive tornado, which laid the greater part of the buildings, fences, &c., in ruins. As the particulars of this calamity have been given in a former communication, I will simply remark on the wonderful preservation experienced by our numerous family. It excites our admiration, and calls for our devout gratitude, that, amid the destruction of almost everything else, the lives and limbs of so many individuals should have been comparatively unharmed. As one instance, twelve bedsteads were in one house, and, after the tornado, not a whole one could be made from what remained unbroken of them all; and yet seventeen females were in the house, and, with the exception of the small bone of one ancle, not a limb was broken, and no one otherwise seriously injured."

Thirty-three pupils were in the seminary, when its operations were thus suddenly and unexpectedly brought to a close. All were females, but one, and all boarded at the station. Of these, twenty-four were supported by the nation, five were boarded by their parents, and the remaining four received their board for what assistance they could render while out of school. The course of studies at the seminary were nineteen in arithmetic; twelve had gone half through fractions in Olney's Arithmetic; one was through compound fellowship; seven had gone through Emerson's first part, and were half through Greenleaf's Arithmetic; twenty-six studied Miss Swift's Natural Philosophy; fourteen went through and reviewed the second part, and twelve others went through the first part; twenty studied Morse's School Geography; twelve went nearly through, and eight others went through North America; three studied history; eleven studied Smith's English Grammar; four had gone through, and seven had commenced it; twenty-six wrote, and ten wrote composition imperfectly. All could read in the Testament but four, who had recently entered, and those that could read recited a verse daily from the Testament. Miss Goulding has continued the teacher in the seminary, and her labors have given complete satisfaction.

Out of school, the girls have been instructed in the various departments of domestic labor. They have been divided into companies, who weekly relieve each other in the dining room and kitchen, under the direction of Mrs. Kingsbury. And when out of school, and not in the dining room or kitchen, have been employed under the care of Miss Bennett and Miss Slate. Much attention has been given by these ladies to the instruction of their pupils in the making of garments, both for men and women, in knitting and fancy work, and in the other useful branches of domestic industry. The Rev. Mr. K. states that a commencement has been made towards repairing and erecting the necessary buildings, but unless he can receive some extra funds, considerable time must elapse before the ordinary allowance to the station will place it in a situation for the school again to be opened.

The Wheelock female seminary is under the charge of the Rev. Alfred Wright, and is located about fifteen miles east of Fort Towson. The Rev. Mr. W. is absent, and the duty of reporting to this office devolves on Mr. Copeland, the teacher at the Norwalk school. He reports forty-five pupils having attended during the year. The teachers are Miss Dickinson and Miss Dolbeare. The school is taught in two departments by these ladies. The pupils have made good progress in the branches taught. The studies pursued by the pupils, and the general arrangements in and out of school, are about the same as those described at Pine Ridge.

The Norwalk school for boys is about five miles from Wheelock, and also under the supervision of the Rev. Mr. Wright, and under the immediate charge of Mr. Copeland, who reports its condition. Thirty-one pupils have attended the last year; of these, sixteen are supported by the nation. The others have been sustained by their friends at school, or by the nation. The others have been sustained by their friends at school, or boarded at home. At this school the

pupils have also progressed well in general, and the branches studied have been about the same as those of the girls at Wheelock.

The Rev. Cyrus Byington is superintendent of the I-yah-nobi female seminary at Stockbridge, in the southeastern part of the Choctaw nation. He reports fifty pupils; of these, thirteen were day scholars, attending from the neighborhood; thirty-five were taught in arithmetic; of these, twelve were taught in numeration only; ten studied English grammar, and attended weekly to composition; ten studied geography; five studied the Illustrative Definer; thirteen studied Miss Swift's Philosophy for Children; four studied Botany for Children, and eighteen attended to penmanship. Singing has also been taught, and religious instruction given. The pupils are required to speak the English language entirely, even among themselves. An improvement in the general deportment of them is manifest. The teachers are Miss Keys and Miss Hall, and the general arrangements in and out of school is about the same as that described at Pine Ridge.

I regret that no report has been received from the Rev. James B. Ramsey, superintendent of Spencer Academy, for the present year. However, from the best sources of information within my reach, I learn that no essential change has taken place in the condition of the institution since his last report. At the examination in July last, the pupils acquitted themselves well; a considerable number of whom had but recently entered, and their progress, therefore, could not be expected to equal those who had previously attended; but I understand that the parents and trustees present were well pleased with the result.

The Koonsher Female Seminary is under the charge of the Rev. E. Hotchkin. He states that the pupils in the institution all suffered from inflammation of the eyes last winter, and that they lost a month's study from its effects; since, they have had tolerably good health, with a few individual exceptions. With one exception, for eight weeks at the commencement, the full number of boarders attended through the year. But four changes were made in the scholars. The new ones did not understand English, or know their letters. It is the opinion of the Choctaw trustees and others that attended the examination in July last, that greater improvement has been made within the past year than at any former period. The whole number of pupils who attended is fifty-nine. Of these, forty-four were furnished by the nation, and fifteen were day scholars. Miss S. C. Downer and Miss C. M. Belden are the teachers in the seminary. The studies have been about the same as at Pine Ridge, and the general arrangements out of school also, with the addition that the girls are instructed to card, spin, and weave.

The Rev. Ramsay D. Potts is superintendent of Armstrong academy. He reports that some changes have taken place in the Academy during the past year by an exchange of scholars, which increases the present number to fifty. Of these, forty-four are supported by the nation and board of missions, and five by individuals. The studies pursued have been from the first rudiments of educa-

tion to algebra. He adds, that in the acquisition of knowledge the students have, in a general way, come up to our highest expectations. It is supposed that the farm upon which the boys labor, a part of their time, will yield an abundance for the consumption of the institution for the ensuing year.

I have just received a report direct from the Rev. R. M. Loughridge, who has in charge the erection of buildings for one of the manual labor schools to be established among the Creeks. It is to be regretted that the buildings for these schools are not in a state of more forwardness. While the Indians are inclined to encourage learning, and the establishment of them, the work should be pushed forward with all the energy and means that could be commanded. The Creeks and Chickasaws have both long interposed objections to the establishment of such schools, and have but recently yielded their opposition upon that subject to the sound reason and better judgment of the Department.

The following is an abstract of the report referred to:

The buildings are pleasantly situated between the Arkansas and Verdigris rivers, about one and a half miles from the former, and two miles from the latter—about two and a quarter miles from the Creek agency, and about three miles from the steamboat landing. They are placed upon a high, dry, and beautiful ridge, connected with good land for cultivation; and the situation, it is thought, will prove as healthy as the country affords. It is well supplied with wood and water.

Several buildings have been erected at the new station. A hewed double log house, one and a half stories high, sixteen by eighteen feet each; a hewed log meat house twenty feet square; a crib and stable fourteen by twenty feet. A well has been dug which affords excellent water, and other improvements are being made. The erection of the buildings has been somewhat delayed for want of good and responsible workmen. This difficulty has, however, been overcome, and the work is now rapidly progressing, and will be ready for the reception of scholars by the first of July next. The whole amount expended at the station is about three thousand six hundred and thirty-seven dollars and thirty-seven cents.

The Choctaw schools are supported by contributions from the nation and the different missionary societies having the superintendence of them. Fort Coffee academy receives six thousand dollars per annum; the seminaries at Pine Ridge, Wheelock, and I-yah-nobi, each receive sixteen hundred dollars per annum from the Choctaws; the Koonsher female seminary receives three thousand dollars; Armstrong academy two thousand nine hundred, and Spencer academy six thousand dollars. An additional allowance of eight hundred and thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents per annum is also made to Armstrong and Spencer academies, and a like sum is also paid to Mr. Wright for the school at Norwalk. Spencer academy also receives two thousand dollars per annum from the civilization fund. I have no correct knowledge of the exact amount contributed by the missionary societies.

During the past year I have visited all these establishments

among the Choctaws, except Spencer Academy and the school at Norwalk, and I am truly gratified to have it in my power to state that the general arrangements at them, both in and out of school, are most excellent, and well and admirably calculated, in my opinion, to elevate the minds of the pupils. From the great amount of attention and labor devoted to them, they must leave these institutions of learning better prepared to discharge the duties and obligations of good citizens, husbands and wives.

I have already referred to the manual labor school to be established among the Creeks, under the charge of the Presbyterian board of foreign missions. The other, to be established among said tribe, is under the charge and direction of the Rev. T. B. Ruble, of the Methodist Episcopal conference south. The progress made in the erection of the buildings for this school, has been about as good as could reasonably be expected. Materials necessary for the buildings have been difficult to obtain, its location being remote from navigation. For further particulars of the progress made in the buildings, you are referred to the report of the Creek agent, and to that of the Rev. Mr. Ruble.

The school of a like character to be established among the Chickasaws has not progressed as well in the erection of the buildings, &c., as could have been desired. Many reasons are given by the superintendent, explaining the causes of hindrance experienced by him in the course of their erection, which accounts pretty satisfactorily for their present unfinished state. The buildings for the manual labor school authorized to be established among the Quapaws have been completed. They were erected under the superintendence of the Rev. Samuel G. Patterson. These buildings had progressed so far in April last as to admit the reception of scholars. They were completed in June last. The energy and perseverance of the superintendent, in pushing forward the work, is worthy to be especially mentioned to the Department.

In the reports of the agents and sub-agents forwarded, you have all the information received at this office of the progress made in the schools established among the different tribes within this superintendency.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. RUTHERFORD,
Acting Sup't. of the Western Territory.

Hon. W. Medill,
Com. Indian Affairs, Washington city.

No. 11—B.

Stockbridge, *July* 20, 1848.

My dear sir: It becomes me, in presenting to you my annual report, gratefully to acknowledge the kind hand which has spared

my life, and those associated with me, another year; and, not only preserved us, but granted us many rich blessings.

At the missionary station with which I am connected, there are six persons residing and laboring, under the direction of the American board of missions, viz: Rev. C. Byington and Mrs. Byington, Mr. David H. Winship, steward and farmer at the I-yah-nobi female seminary, Mrs. A. H. Winship, Miss Harriet N. Keys, teacher in the seminary, and Miss Lydia S. Hall, supervisor of the girls, &c., when out of school.

The annual examination of the seminary was held, by the appointment of the trustees, on the 30th day of June last. The next term is to commence on the 21st day of September next. The length of the late session was 39 weeks.

The whole number of pupils was 50. The average number was 37. The number of beneficiaries provided for at the seminary is 30. Thirteen new ones were entered during the year. Thirty-five were taught in arithmetic; of these, 12 were taught in enumeration only. Ten have studied English grammar and attended weekly to composition; 10 have studied geography; 5 have studied the Illustrated Definer; 13 have studied Miss Swift's Philosophy for Children; 17 have studied the Little Philosopher; 4 have studied Botany for Children, and 18 have attended to penmanship. Singing, also, has been taught, and religious instruction has been given. Sixteen of those connected with the school are members of the church. They vary much in their ages and complexion, many being the descendants of white men by Choctaw mothers. The daily sessions were usually opened at ½ past 8, a. m., and closed at ½ past 1, p. m. For many months there was another session of one hour or more after supper. The school was daily opened and closed with religious exercises.

The scholars are required to speak the English language entirely, even among themselves; and it is seldom that a Choctaw word is spoken by them, except when their friends come and make a visit. The general deportment of most of the scholars has been good, and there is a manifest improvement of character in many of them.

In their manual labors they have been well occupied with what may be called their own work. Those who are large enough have alternately performed their tasks at the dining room and kitchen, and various household duties at the seminary. A little fancy work has been kept on hand as a reward for diligence and faithfulness. It is desired also as a recreation, and for the cultivation of a good taste and skill in the use of the needle.

Their labors in the dining-room and kitchen are systematized as much as possible. There are four classes in these labors, each class having some large and some small girls, and remaining a week at a time. They are taught to keep the rooms and tables in order, to prepare food, to make butter, soap, candles, &c. Some attention has been paid to making cheese, and a carpet. Several of the larger girls are capable of preparing an ordinary meal for the whole family, with the help of the small members of the same class.

The scholars have been a good deal afflicted with sore eyes, but they have been much favored with health, and no one of all the beneficiaries has yet been removed by death, to our knowledge. The average number boarded at the seminary is about 40. The hour for breakfast at all seasons of the year is 6 o'clock, a. m. Family worship is attended at the close of the morning and evening meals. In the morning, verses of scripture are recited at the time of worship.

There are nearly 40 acres of land under cultivation—18 in corn, 10 in oats, 6 in wheat, 3 in rye, 3 in potatoes, and a garden. A peach orchard has been planted, and a few apple trees. There are about 30 acres of the "woods" enclosed for pasturage.

A log barn, 30 by 20 feet, and a hewed log cabin, 20 by 18, have been built within about a year. A framed house for the use of the teachers and scholars, 36 by 18 feet, is now being built. A garden, containing nearly an acre of ground, has been enclosed with a good paling; and a yard, 200 feet by 100, around the school building, has been enclosed with a substantial paling.

There are two yoke of oxen, 1 span of horses, 3 milch cows, 18 head of other neat cattle, and 75 head of swine, at the seminary. We hope with the means allotted us, and with the practice of industry and economy, through the blessing of the Lord, to meet the expenses of these arrangements, and continue the operations of the seminary.

It should also be noted here that we have a large and useful Sabbath school connected with the seminary, and which meets in our new house for worship. Connected with this missionary station, and within its bounds, are four other Sabbath schools. Since 1836, there have been built five school-houses and two meeting-houses, besides the seminary buildings.

The Presbyterian church on Mountain Fork was organized in 1832. The whole number received from the beginning is 336. Of these, 21 were white people and 18 colored. But many have moved away, or united with other churches, and 120 have died. The whole number at the present time is 119. There are about seven different places where I preach the gospel.

The great subjects of temperance and industry demand attention at all times in this land. At times our people are very zealous in the cause of temperance, and very successful. I remember, some years since, when they ascertained that ten of their nation within a few years, and within this vicinity, had perished through the influence of whiskey, a great meeting was held, and the evils of drunkenness spoken of at great length. After that, for about six years, only one person, to my knowledge, died through intoxication. Since then it has been otherwise, and eighteen more have followed the ten spoken of above, making, in all, twenty-eight deaths by means of the whiskey bottle! We need help and encouragement. The Choctaws have for a long time been gradually acquiring property, and those who deal in whiskey know how to choose their range as well as old hunters know *when* and *where* game is *fat* and plenty, and the fur *thick*, *fine*, and *heavy*.

Many of the Choctaws are industrious, and are improving very fast, while others are idle. In our schools and in our religious assemblies, we think we see evidence of a great change for the better; and this is true not only of the red people, but of others who have none of the red man's blood. As an evidence of some industry, I can mention the single fact, that the merchants at the depot purchased one hundred and twenty bales of cotton the past year, and that most of the Choctaws in that vicinity have planted cotton this year, and their crops are said to appear well. The same holds true here as elsewhere, that those who are bent on being industrious and of making improvement will find a way and means for the accomplishment of their wishes, and will ordinarily find a rich reward through the blessings of our Father in Heaven, without whose blessing none can be good or happy. It is highly important to teach the plain truths of God's word. There we find the best support for virtue, and the strongest restraints upon sin. It is indeed a light to our feet, and a lamp to our path in all lands and among all people; and when there is a want of these blessed truths the people mourn. How long has this word of God been illustrated as true among the red men: "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge?" We have much yet to do in order to raise up this people. They have made a good commencement in their system and manner of legislation, and in their administration of civil government as well as in their liberal provisions for the education of their sons and daughters, and the attention they have given to the gospel of our Lord and Savior.

Much yet remains to be done before these several departments of labor shall be complete. A good field is here spread out to the view of us all. May you and may I also live to see all this wilderness and these solitary places glad, and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose.

With much respect, I am yours, &c.,

CYRUS BYINGTON.

Colonel SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD,
Acting Superintendent, &c., Choctaw Agency.

No. 11—C.

ARMSTRONG ACADEMY,
August 8, 1848.

DEAR SIR: Every one interested in the amelioration of the condition of the Indians, must feel gratified in knowing that they are gradually emerging from a state of ignorance to that of an enlightened people. The system at present pursued among the Choctaws to accomplish this desirable end is, no doubt, the best that has yet been devised; and, should it be persevered in in time to come, it will go far towards producing the desired effect. Idleness has ever been considered the parent of vice, and its effects are perceptible among the whites as well as the Indians; consequently, the

blending of labor with education is a great corrector of the evil. It is, therefore, important that habits of industry should be inculcated among the Indians.

Upon this principle we have endeavored to conduct this institution, hoping that it will have an influence, not only upon our students, but others also.

The progress of the boys has been as great as we could expect from their imperfect knowledge of the English language. The difficulties which they have to overcome in the acquisition of a foreign language are truly great; but, with commendable zeal, they endeavor to surmount them. But few of our students, when they entered the institution, knew anything of the English; but now all their intercourse with one another and the family is carried on in English. Thus has one great difficulty been overcome, and many of them pursue their studies with an increasing desire to know more.

Some changes have taken place in the school since my last report, by an exchange of scholars between this district and Mush-a-le-tubbe; with what advantage to either district time alone will tell. Upon the 1st of January, the school was increased ten in number, which makes forty-five in this institution under the appropriation of the nation and the board of missions; in addition to which, there are three boys supported by individuals in Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee, and two by myself, which made our number fifty during last session.

The studies pursued have been from the first rudiments of education to algebra. In the acquisition of knowledge the students have, in a general way, come up to our highest expectations. We have had every grade of intellect to improve, from the brightest to the dullest; consequently, it could not be expected that every one would make the same favorable appearance. This was perceptible at the examination held June 30, which, I believe, gave general satisfaction. All appeared as tho' they understood what they had studied.

The following is a schedule of the studies pursued:

First class.—Emerson's arithmetic, 3d part; geography, grammar, algebra, reading, writing, and spelling.

Second class.—Emerson's arithmetic, 3d part; geography, reading, writing, and spelling.

Third class.—Emerson's arithmetic, 2d part; geography, reading, writing, and spelling.

Fourth class.—Emerson's arithmetic, 1st part; geography, reading, writing, and spelling.

Fifth class.—Mental arithmetic, reading, writing, and spelling.

Sixth class.—Spelling, easy reading, and mental arithmetic.

Seventh class.—Spelling and mental arithmetic.

Eighth class.—Alphabet.

As before remarked, manual labor has been combined with other studies, and, as the result of the labor performed, we have, at this time, fifty acres of corn, and about eight in potatoes and other vegetables. The labor in this part of the crop has been done by the

students, with the exception of some assistance in breaking up and planting. In addition to this, they have cleared about twelve acres of ground. Last fall we sowed twenty acres of wheat, which, though injured some by the frost in the spring, has made a sufficiency for our own consumption.

We have never had a finer prospect of a crop, and, should nothing befal it, we shall have an abundance for our use, and, from present appearances, we shall have nearly pork enough.

In our instructions, we have inculcated the principles of our holy religion, and endeavored to impress upon them the obligations to God. These, we have reason to believe, have had, and still have, an influence. Without the blessing of God upon our labors, all will come to nought; and we therefore labor to make our students Christians, which has been attended with some success.

There is a gradual improvement in the people in our vicinity; they desire to receive instruction, and have, of their own accord, established a Saturday and Sabbath school, taught by a native.

Though intemperance prevails in the nation, in this neighborhood I have not known of a single case of drunkenness.

Take the nation as a whole, so far as my knowledge extends, there appears to be a gradual advancement in religion, morals, education, and industry.

All of which is respectfully submitted by your obedient servant,

RAMSAY D. POTTS,
Superintendent Armstrong Academy.

Colonel S. M. RUTHERFORD,
Agent for Choctaws.

No. 11—D.

Annual report of the Chuahla female seminary, for the year ending June 30, 1848.

The circumstances under which I am called to report the present year, are very different from what they have before been. On the 19th of March last, the station occupied by this seminary was visited by a terrific and destructive tornado, which laid the greater part of the buildings, fences, &c., in ruins. As the particulars of this calamity have been given in a former communication, I will simply remark on the wonderful preservation experienced by our numerous family. It excites our admiration, and calls for our devout gratitude, that, amid the destruction of almost everything else, the lives and limbs of so many individuals should have been, comparatively, unharmed. As one instance, twelve bedsteads were in one house, and, after the tornado, not a whole one could be made from what remained unbroken of them all. And yet seventeen females were in the same house, and, with the exception of the small bone of one ankle, not a limb was broken, and no one otherwise seriously in-

jured. The arm of an Almighty Protector was there, and to the rough wind He said, "hitherto shalt thou come, but no further!"

There were 33 pupils in the seminary when its operations were thus suddenly and unexpectedly brought to a close. With one exception all were females, and all boarded at the station. Twenty-four were on the appropriation; the board of five was paid by the parents, and the remaining four received their board for what assistance they could render while out of school.

Miss Harriet Goulding has continued the teacher in the seminary, and her labours have given universal satisfaction.

Much attention has been paid to the instruction of the pupils out of school, in the various departments of domestic labor. A company have been employed alternately, a week at a time, in the kitchen and dining room, under the direction of Mrs. Kingsbury. Those not in the dining room and kitchen have been employed, when out of school, under the care of Miss Bennett and Miss Slate. Much patient and persevering attention has been given by these ladies to the instruction of their pupils in the making of garments both for men and women, in knitting, in fancy work, and in other branches of domestic industry.

Miss Bennett had but recently commenced her labors in the above department, having come to our assistance in December last. She has generously declined receiving any compensation for her services.

The destruction of the station at Pine Ridge is, to us, a mysterious event. The school had never been more pleasant and prosperous than it was up to the very day that the place was laid in ruins. Every arrangement which seemed necessary to the successful prosecution of our work had been made. God had some wise and important end to accomplish by thus suddenly arresting our labors. What that end was we may not know *now*, but we shall know hereafter.

Mr. and Mrs. Breed, from Connecticut, who arrived in January last, have taken charge of the secular and domestic concerns of the station.

The school-house was entirely unroofed and otherwise much damaged. A dwelling-house, 40 feet by 20, two stories high, with a piazza on each side, was entirely demolished. This house was occupied by the pupils and the ladies who had charge of them out of school. Most of the out-buildings of the station were destroyed, and those not destroyed were much injured. A commencement has been made towards repairing and erecting the necessary buildings; but unless we can receive some extra funds, considerable time must elapse before the ordinary allowance to the station will place it in a situation for the school again to be opened.

Since 1840, until the past year, the field of my missionary labors has been quite extensive. I am now, in a great measure, relieved from that portion of the field lying west of the Boggy. In this field are four churches, with an aggregate of over 200 members. These churches are now under the pastoral care and instruction of the Rev. J. C. Strong and the Rev. Joshua Potter. The latter re-

sides at Mount Pleasant, on the Boggy, and has an interesting neighborhood school at his station, of about 25 scholars.

The church in this neighborhood, to which I preach something more than half the time, and whose house of worship is at Doaksville, has at present about 50 members. Thirteen have been added the past year. Both the congregation and the church have frequently changed since I commenced my labors among them. This in part has been owing to the change of troops at Fort Towson, which at times have composed a considerable portion both of the congregation and the church. Since 1837, more than 300 have been added to this church; of these, 160 have been dimissed by letter, to join other churches to which they have removed.

A weekly prayer meeting is usually held, and the monthly concert is regularly observed at two different places. The collections the past year for missionary purposes have amounted to $164 68.

A great desire is manifested by the Choctaws for the education of their children. Many neighborhood schools have been established, which are taught by natives in their own language. These schools are attended both by adults and children.

All which is respectfully submitted.

C. KINGSBURY,
Superintendent Chuahla Female Seminary.

Colonel S. M. Rutherford,
Acting Superintendent, &c., Indian territory.

No. 11—E.

Fort Coffee Academy,
July 20, 1848.

Dear Sir: I have the honor to lay before you the annual report of our schools at this place and New Hope; and, as I consider any report unnecessary (saving your general report) to the Department, I shall be very brief, especially so, as we are immediately in your vicinity, you having so many opportunities of knowing the condition and prosperity of our schools. * * * * *

The students were examined on the following studies: spelling, reading, arithmetic, geography, English grammar, chemistry, algebra, geometry, and the Latin grammar. The students in the New Hope (female) branch of our school were examined on the following day. The studies of the female seminary were the same of the male, excepting chemistry, algebra, geometry, and Latin. It affords me a great deal of pleasure to say to you, in *truth*, that the students far surpassed any, the most sanguine expectations of a stranger. Your brother, Colonel R., and Mrs. Rutherford, were present when the children were examined in the female branch, to both of whom I refer you for an account of that examination. As far as I am informed, the schools are doing well, very well, through-

out the Choctaw territory. Indeed, many of the children in our schools manifest a capability to receive a finished education.

And, in conclusion, it is due to our teachers to say that they have labored hard and constantly to advance the children, and appear determined in future to do *even* more, if possible.

With great respect, I subscribe myself, yours, truly,

W. L. McALLISTER,
Superintendent.

Colonel S. M. RUTHERFORD,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, &c.

P. S.—The missionary society is near one thousand dollars in advance of her obligations. $100 have educated ninety-five children the past session; boarding, clothing, and furnishing eighty-five with everything. The farm on which the boys labor a part of their time is in respectable condition. The girls are taught housewifery in general. Some fine specimens of sewing were exhibited on the day of examination.

W. L. Mc.

No. 11—F.

KOWETAH, CREEK NATION,
August 28, 1848.

DEAR SIR: With pleasure I comply with your request, and herewith send you a brief report of the operations of the Presbyterian mission among the Creeks during the past twelve months.

At this station our operations have gone on about as usual. The boarding school is still conducted on the manual labor system, and is in a flourishing condition. The last session commenced on the 20th October, and continued until the 27th July last, with the exception of a recess of about four weeks. On the last day of the session we had a public examination of the school, when, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, many of the parents and friends of the children were present, and expressed themselves as being highly gratified with their performances, as evidence of their improvement.

The whole number of children in attendance during the term, besides three missionary children, *was forty-nine*, twenty-two boys and twenty-seven girls, of whom forty-two boarded in the mission family.

* * * * * * * *

Mr. J. Silby, the teacher, says the children "generally have advanced very fast. In less than a year, some have learned to read and write pretty well, and to cypher a little; some of whom could not speak English. For the most part they have been obedient and well behaved, and are anxious to learn." I would further state that there has been a decided improvement in the moral deportment of most of the children; and the interest manifested by them in

the religious exercises at the station has greatly encouraged us in our work and "labor of love," and we hope that they will "not be in vain in the Lord."

The church at the station has been, during the year, increased by five additional members. The number of persons now in connexion with the church, besides the missionaries, is twenty—thirteen Indians, five blacks, and two whites. There is also a good deal of interest manifested by many of our neighbors, who are very regular in their attendance at church; but many others are equally inattentive, and are seldom seen at the place of worship. We have preaching occasionally at several other places, and find the people, generally, well disposed; considerable anxiety to hear the gospel is manifested.

Preparations for the erection of a large brick building, for the manual labor boarding school, at Tallahassee, which, from various causes, has been much hindered, is now going on vigorously. Some of the out-buildings have been completed, viz: a double log house, two rooms below, 18 by 16 feet, each, one and a half stories high, and hewed inside and out. This will be used temporarily for a dwelling-house, but is intended finally for a work-shop; also a hewed log meat-house, 20 feet square; good crib cutting room and stable; a well has been dug and walled up with stone; and other improvements are being made, which will be needed for the successful operation of the school as soon as the main building is completed.

The strong desire for improvement in general, and for the education of the children in particular, which has been remarked for several years, is still manifest everywhere among the people. More schools, however, many more, and many more devoted missionaries, are needed, and must be had before much can be expected towards the civilization and evangelization of this long neglected but noble people.

May the Lord bless the means already in use, and increase the instrumentality a hundred fold, is the prayer of your obedient servant,

R. M. LOUGHRIDGE.

Colonel Jas. Logan,
Agent for the Creeks.

No. 11—G.

Report of Wheelock female seminary.

In the absence of Mr. Wright, it devolves on me to make a report of the Wheelock female seminary. This closed the session on the 11th instant. The whole number of pupils at the institution, during the term, is forty-five. This school is taught in two departments, by different teachers. Miss Dickinson has had twenty-three in her department.

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The other department of this school has been taught by Miss Dolbeare, and consisted of twenty-two pupils.

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The children in both these departments have been required to labor to some extent. They have made good proficiency in needle work, and have been taught to some extent to perform, in a proper manner, the duties of a housewife.

The teachers, in both the male and female schools, have been persons of intelligence and piety, and, so far as I am able to ascertain, their labors have been acceptable to the people, generally. The parents and friends of the children manifest a deep interest in the success of the boarding schools, and endeavor to sustain the teachers and others engaged in the work. Manual labor schools are the only institutions which promise to benefit the Choctaws materially. This people need to be instructed in regard to applying their labor so as to make it productive. Many of them are willing to labor to a considerable extent; but they seem at a loss to know how they may render their labor most productive. [This remark does not apply to all.] And manual laboring institutions seem to be just what is necessary to direct their efforts in such a way as to produce the greatest effect.

Yours, &c.,

CHARLES C. COPELAND.

No. 11—H.

NORWALK, C. N.,
July 19, 1848.

DEAR SIR: In the absence of Rev. A. Wright, the superintendent of Norwalk school, it becomes my duty to make the annual report.

The third session of this school closed on the 10th instant, and we have great cause of gratitude to our Heavenly Father for all the goodness with which he has surrounded us during the year now past. We have had but little sickness, either among the pupils or the members of the mission family; the hand of death has been stayed; the grim messenger has not been permitted to enter our dwelling.

The whole number of pupils that have attended the school during the year is thirty-one. The average attendance has been twenty-seven. Of these, sixteen have been supported by the appropriation; the others have been sustained by friends at the school, or boarded at home.

* * * * * * * * *

Good proficiency has been made in all the studies. There has also been a weekly exercise in declamation, composition, and vocal music. All who are able to write a legible hand have been required to write a composition in English regularly; and the teacher adds: "I am happy to say, that no exercise has been attended with better success. Most of the school are familiar with

the rudiments of vocal music, and a good proportion read plain sacred music with fluency. In their attention to instruction, there is a steady and manifest improvement, which is very gratifying to those who have the charge of them; and, with the blessing of God upon our labors, we can but cherish high hopes for the future usefulness of these youth."

The boys have been required to labor from two to four hours in each day; and, on Saturdays, they have labored one-half of the day, and the other half has been considered their own time. Many of them have labored during their play hours, for which they have been compensated. The money they have thus received has been voluntarily devoted to charitable purposes. On the whole, we feel that the members of this school have manifested a *desire* for improvement, which has been a great satisfaction to us, and, I trust, gratifying to their friends. It has been an object with us to cultivate, as far as possible, their social feelings, and our efforts have been crowned with a good degree of success. The boys have manifested a *willingness* to labor, and enter into all the plans we have adopted for their improvement. We can but hope that our labors will prove a lasting benefit to those who are placed under our care.

Respectfully, yours,

CHARLES C. COPELAND.

Colonel S. M. RUTHERFORD,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Choctaw nation.

No. 11—I.

GOOD WATER, *July* 7, 1848.

I take this opportunity to forward the annual report of this station and school for the year ending July 7, 1848. Some other things, also, in connexion with our labors here, perhaps, will interest you. And, in the first place, we would recognize the hand of a kind Providence by which our lives have been preserved. And, with the exception of one or two individuals, we have had tolerably good health through the year. Miss Belden has suffered from illness; but she has been able to teach through the year, with the exception of three weeks. I have suffered, since the meeting of presbytery in April, from inflammation of the eyes. This is the second letter that I have attempted to write, and this puts me in misery; and this is my apology for not writing you before. A great part of the time I have not been able to read in family worship. The scholars have all suffered from this disease during the winter; they have lost more than a month of study hours in this term; and it has broken the regularity of classes, which is so desirable for the steady progress of a school.

We have had our full number of boarders, viz: forty-four, through the year, with the exception of one, for eight weeks, at

the commencement of the term. There were but four changes made in scholars. The four new ones did not understand the English, or know the A B C's; changes like this are not calculated to increase the immediate interest of a school, or decrease the labors of the teachers. But we think, and those who have visited the schools think, that greater improvement has been made this term than at any former one. The whole number who have attended during the year is fifty-nine—forty-four boarders and fifteen day scholars.

Miss L. C. Downer had under her charge 33, and Miss C. M. Belden, 25.

The Bible has been the text book in both schools. Connected with the day school, we have had an interesting Sabbath school. This arrangement I consider of vital importance to the welfare of youth. Their studies have been Union Questions, vol. 1st, Emerson's Evangelical Primer, containing doctrinal and historical truth, and the Assembly's Shorter Catechism. It is surprising to see how much knowledge may be obtained in forty Sabbaths, under faithful and judicious teachers. The knowledge of what we are to be and to do is an important branch of science. In the Sabbath school, I am happy to say, our scholars have made good progress. In the domestic duties of the family the children are required to take part, and for this purpose are divided into companies, each company taking its turn in rotation. Thirteen have learned to cut and fit dresses; forty-two can card and spin cotton; nine can weave. Forty yards have been woven by them this term. The filling for the above has been spun by the smaller girls. Some attention has also been paid to ornamental needle work.

The people generally are waking up to the subject of education and general improvement. In three different places Saturday and Sabbath schools have been commenced. The expense of these schools is raised by individual subscriptions. The whole number of learners is between seventy and eighty. The man of thirty or thirty-five years is seen sitting with the little child of seven or eight, learning to read their own language. Many of this people are determined to learn something; if they cannot learn the English they will learn their own language. The effects of these schools have so far been good. Their minds have been turned off from their former habits and customs, which have often prevented their making good crops. Another good effect is, these schools tend to instruct and elevate the mind. From twenty years close observation on the habits and manners of this people, I can truly say that the "ball stick and the violin" have done very little towards civilizing or Christianizing them. But, on the other hand, I am happy to say that schools and the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ has done much. I would not deny this or any other people of their pastimes, but I would recommend those which would elevate them. The Choctaws have this proverb now among themselves: "We begin to improve just in proportion as we give heed to the preaching of the gospel."

The prospects before us as a mission are still encouraging.

This church covers an area of ten or twelve miles in breadth to about forty in length. Within these bounds we have four places where religious meetings are held almost every Sabbath. At three of these places we have houses to meet in; at one we meet in the open air. At three of these places the attendance on preaching has been increasing during the year. Since my report of last July, eighty-two persons have been received into this church, as the fruits of a continued revival of religion. No extra means or measures have been used to arouse or awaken excitement. The truths of the gospel have been exhibited in a plain and simple manner before the mind. These truths, in the hands of the Holy Spirit, are like "the fire and the hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces."

Only let truth affect a man savingly and there will be improvement internally and externally, personally and relatively, at home and abroad, in his family and out of it.

With much respect, I remain truly yours,

E. HOTCHKEN,
Sup't. of Koonsher female seminary.

Colonel RUTHERFORD,
Agent for the Choctaws.

No. 12.

CHEROKEE AGENCY, *October* 10, 1848.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report of the present condition of the Cherokee tribe west of the Mississippi river.

General good health prevails throughout the nation; but few cases of sickness, common to the country heretofore, have made their appearance within the last year.

The Cherokees are in a prosperous condition, so far as agricultural pursuits are concerned, many of them have large and extensive farms under good fences and well cultivated; all classes indeed have used great industry the present year, and, although their crops will be to some extent cut short on account of the drought, there will be an abundance raised for home consumption and to spare. The most of them have ample stocks of horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, &c., and I am happy to say that the difficulties that for some years past seemed to separate them into parties seems to have subsided. They are now seldom mentioned by any. Should they, as I trust they will, forget the past, and once more become united as a people, they are, with the advantages they possess, destined in a very short time to become an enlightened and intelligent people.

I visited Tahlaquah, the seat of government, a few days since. Their committee and council were in session; peace and good order prevailed to an extent not very common in legislative bodies, and I hesitate not to say that, if the different parties were again united

so as to confide in each other, that they are as capable of managing their own affairs, in a territorial or State government, as most people are in territorial or new State governments.

With regard to the females, they are generally industrious, and very neat in their household affairs. You generally find them neatly and fashionably dressed in home-made clothes of their own manufacturing; in passing through the country, the wheel and loom are frequently the first sounds that greet the ear. On your arrival at their houses, the neatness and taste they display in the selection of colors, and the manufacturing of the cloth, is not to be surpassed in any part of the government.

With regard, then, to the agricultural and household pursuits of the Cherokees, they are, from the best information I have been able to procure, in a rapid state of improvement.

With regard to the condition of the several schools and churches in the Cherokee nation, I regret that I shall not be able to make a minute report, though they are, as I am credibly informed, in a more prosperous condition than at any time heretofore.

I have written to the Rev. S. A. Worcester, Park Hill; the Rev. E. J. Peery, Tah-la-quah; the Rev. Evan Jones, Silvay's post office, and, through mistake, to the Rev. Jacob Hitchcock, Kedron, from neither of whom I have heard, except Mr. Hitchcock, whose letter I herewith enclose for your information. I have also written to Colonel W. S. Adair, superintendent of public schools in the Cherokee nation. I have seen Colonel Adair within the last few days. He had just made his annual report as school commissioner to the Cherokee council. I had an opportunity of examining it. I believed it to be an able report, made with much care and speciality. I am of opinion it will pretty well account for the orphan fund heretofore placed in the hands of the Cherokee authorities. I am promised a copy of the report referred to, and if it reaches me in time will enclose it with this report, for the satisfaction of the Indian Department.

I also find in this office two letters—one from the Rev. T. B. Ruble, dated October 6, 1847, to Colonel McKisick, and one from Rev. Evan Jones, dated 18th November, 1847, to Colonel McKisick—neither of which, I see, have been referred to in the colonel's report, (I suppose on account of their coming to hand at too late a date.) As I believe they will be of much interest to the Department, I herewith enclose them for your further satisfaction. I believe them well worthy of a place in your annual report; and should I still receive reports from the reverend gentlemen to whom I have written, I will enclose them to you. I presume the reason I have not heard from them is for the want of mail facilities.

Since at the agency, I have not, on account of the interposition of public business at the agency, had it in my power to visit the several schools in the Cherokee nation, so as to enable me to make such a report as is required by the rules and regulations of the Department.

With regard to the progress of religion and literature in the Cherokee nation, I am advised that I may readily set it down that

in each there has been at least an improvement of *ten per cent.* from the last year's report. The two several seminaries, spoken of by my immediate predecessor in his annual report of 1847, near Tah-la-quah, in the Cherokee nation, are still in progress of building. The female institution, I am informed, is now covered in, and some several of the rooms are plastered and undergoing a handsome finish. The male institution is also rapidly progressing; the walls are up to the second story, and it is expected it will be covered in during the fall season.

With regard to the Cherokee government, I see that my immediate predecessor, in his annual report of 1846, has given you a short, though very correct report. The political and judicial systems have underwent no change since that time worthy of note.

There have been several murders in the nation since I came into office, but they have been mostly among the Cherokees themselves, and subject to be punished by their own internal laws. In some cases they prosecute and punish with much promptness, but in others there seems to be a want of energy.

Since writing the above report, I have received the report of W. S. Adair, superintendent of public schools in the Cherokee nation, and herewith enclose it with the hope that it will be found a useful and interesting document to the Department.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient and humble servant,

R. C. S. BROWN,
Cherokee Agent.

S. M. RUTHERFORD, Esq.,
Superintendent, &c., Choctaw Agency.

No. 12—A.

PARK HILL, *Oct.* 6, 1847.

DEAR SIR: Your communication of September 6th, came to hand not long since. In this you ask for information respecting the "condition and progress of the Methodist church in the Cherokee nation." The Methodist missionary board have had twelve missionaries employed in this work the past year. At the last session of the Indian Mission conference, Rev. T. B. Ruble was appointed to the charge of the Cherokee district. This district embraces five circuits in the Cherokee nation.

1. Upper Cherokee. To this charge Rev. D. B. Cumming and Rev. John F. Boot were sent at the last session of the conference, and J. R. Bird employed as interpreter. There are 538 church members, 7 local preachers, 6 sabbath schools, 181 scholars, 161 volumes in libraries, and 6 meeting houses, which have been built by the members.

2. Tah-le-quah circuit. This work has been served the past year by Rev. John T. Peery and Rev. Wm. McIntosh. There are 12 preaching places, 249 in society, 4 local preachers, 2 meeting

houses, 1 sabbath school, 35 scholars, and 100 volumes in library. Thirty-five children and 18 adults have been baptized, and more than 60 have been admitted into the church on trial during the past year.

3. Lower Cherokee. Rev. John Boston and Rev. Wm. Proctor have been laboring on this circuit the past year. There are 3 meeting houses, 18 preaching places, 337 church members, and 1 local preacher.

4. Barren Fork. Rev. Thomas Bertholf and Rev. Walker Cary have served here. There are, in this division of the work, 241 in society, 130 of whom have been received during the past year, 10 have died, and 10 removed; there is, also, one Sabbath school. This work is in a prosperous condition.

5. Webber's Falls. This field of labor was laid off at the last session of the conference, and is almost entirely new work, embracing the settlements on the Arkansas and Canadian rivers, among the most wild and unsettled part of the Cherokee nation—many of whom had not, in all probability, ever heard the gospel before. To this circuit, Rev. W. A. Duncan, with Isaac Sanders as interpreter, was sent to labor. But little fruit has yet appeared; there are 17 in society, 1 Sabbath school, and 15 scholars.

Of the above-named missionaries 4 are white and 8 native men. The annual cost to the board has been about $2,070. We have no schools under our direction, yet the subjects of education and temperance are encouraged, so far as practicable, by all our missionaries.

Your most obedient servant,
T. B. RUBLE, P. E.,
Cherokee District.

Col. JAMES McKISICK,
Cherokee Agent.

No. 12—B.

Extract of a letter from Jacob Hitchcock, esq., superintendent of secular affairs for Dwight mission, C. N., to R. C. S. Brown, esq., Cherokee agent, dated September 28, 1848.

There is but one school connected with the mission station, composed wholly of females, except two or three lads that board at home. Fifty-two different scholars have attended the school more or less the last year. Forty-two of these have been boarded and taught gratuitously at the station. The average number of scholars was about forty-five. The scholars were very regular in their attendance, and there was but little change during the year; this was an advantage to the school, both to teachers and scholars. Miss Eliza Giddings is principal teacher, and Miss Julia S. Hitchcock, assistant teacher. The mission family is composed of eleven members, viz: Rev. W. Willey and Mrs. Willey; Jacob Hitchcock,

superintendent of secular affairs, and Mrs. Hitchcock; Mr. James Orr, farmer, and Mrs. Orr; Mr. Kellogg Day, mechanic, and Mrs. Day; Miss Ellen Stetson, directress of girls out of school; Miss Giddings and Miss Hitchcock, teachers, as stated above. The school has been composed wholly of native scholars. The following branches of education have been taught: spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, grammar, natural and mental philosophy, algebra, and composition. Many of the scholars made good progress in their studies, and at the public examination acquitted themselves much to their own credit and the satisfaction of a large number of spectators, comprising some of the leading men in the nation, among whom was the acting principal chief and one or two members of the legislature.

No. 13.

Creek Agency, *September* 11, 1848.

Sir: I beg leave to present to your consideration the following report of the condition of the Creeks, and also, to refer you to the accompanying papers, being the reports of the different missionaries and teachers employed within this nation.

The untiring zeal and devoted exertions of the missionaries here have succeeded in producing an increased and growing interest on the subject of religion, education, and temperance; never since the Creeks were known, have these subjects been received by them with the interest and deep solicitude that now exists; a spirit of inquiry has sprung up, which, in manifesting itself, has produced results calculated to excite both surprise and gratification. Several of the chiefs and influential men have been converted, and their conduct, and the course they have pursued since the public profession of their convictions, have fully shown their sincerity and their determination to follow the line they have marked out with fidelity and truth; their example and influence have given countenance to the work and induced many others to follow, and has also had a tendency to suppress any manifestation of opposition. Several camp meetings have been held, which have been attended by numerous and respectable congregations, and conducted with the greatest decency and order. A tendency to throw aside their superstitions, customs and practices, and to disregard and ridicule the incantations and invocations of their medicine men and doctors, is also manifest and apparent, and which is good evidence of the growing intelligence and enlightenment of these people.

There has been in a course of operation during the year two schools in the vicinity of the agency: one under the charge of the Presbyterian, and the other of the Methodist society; one at the Presbyterian mission, and two at the settlement on the North Fork, in the Canadian district, one of which has been under the charge of Mr. Hay, a Baptist missionary, and the other of that of the Methodists. The accounts from all are highly flattering; that which

is most cheering, and at the same time most gratifying evidence of the interest abounding, is the pride and satisfaction evidently felt by the parents at the acquirements of their children; it is not uncommon for them to boast of their progress in learning, and that they can read, write and speak like a white man. This is the proper feeling, and induces the belief that the rising generation of the Creeks, will indeed be a different people.

The buildings for the two manual labor schools are both in the course of erection, the mechanics and workmen engaged on them being regularly and busily employed; every exertion is made by the different superintendents to forward the work; but owing to the distance from navigation, and the difficulty of obtaining supplies, no exact calculation can be made as to the time they will be finished and ready for operation.

That whiskey still continues to be introduced and used in the nation, and that there is no way to effectually suppress it, is but too true; it is not, however, so publicly exhibited; neither is intoxication so common, and I am convinced that much less of this pernicious article is used than formerly.

The crops which for some time were expected to be cut short by an excessive drought which prevailed throughout the nation, will, it is said, yet prove amply sufficient to satisfy the calculations made for their application; the farms of the Indians, though in most instances of small extent, not unusually contain different crops; the corn is most common. Wheat, oats and rice are raised in considerable quantities. I was surprised in travelling through the nation lately, to observe the many fine orchards, the neatness and regularity of the fences around the farms, and the improvements in their houses, and to see in many instances the furniture in them neat, cleanly, and appropriate; the spinning wheel and loom are in common use; but that which struck me most, was the introduction of Yankee clocks, an article not in general use among Indians.

There has recently arrived in their new country sixty-five emigrants; from the fact of their having scattered in different parts of the nation, where their relatives or friends lived, I have been unable to visit but few of them; those I have seen, express themselves as pleased with their new country generally; it must be expected, however, that many will have to suffer, or have suffered, with the sickness peculiar to the climate; though, so far, I have heard of no deaths, nor of any serious cases of sickness among them.

I have already informed the Department the result of the proceedings that arose from the proposal submitted by me to the general council for a per capita payment of the Creek annuity; I was of the opinion until recently, that it was the best and most judicious plan, and that a large majority of the nation were in favor of it. I have since had reason to believe otherwise; the design of the Department has emanated from the just and praiseworthy motive of securing to the common Indian that to which he is entitled equally with his chief, and to prevent fraud from being practised upon them by unprincipled traders, and there are many tribes to whom it will apply, and who have good cause to be thankful for its inter-

ference; with the Creeks, however, believe me it is otherwise; they have neither chiefs nor traders among them who cheat and defraud them. Their chiefs have certain duties assigned them, for which they are paid salaries by no means exorbitant or inadequate to the service rendered; after these are paid, the residue is equally distributed to every head of a family; the payment to the chiefs is made with the full concurrence and approbation of the tribe. With this, and with their legislation to which they have long been accustomed, they are satisfied that it is suited to their peculiar condition and wants. The fact of their undisturbed, peaceful and prosperous condition abundantly testifies this. I do not believe there is a community of people in the world who are living as happily and who agree together as well as do the Creeks at the present time. Crimes of any importance are seldom heard of; a case of horse stealing, for instance, has not come under my notice for more than two years, and this is of common occurrence among other tribes, and not unfrequent among the whites on the frontier. To what is this state to be attributed, unless to the influence and authority of the chiefs? Destroy this influence, which a per capita payment of the annuity would have a tendency to do, without materially benefitting the Indian, and you have anarchy and confusion, where was peace and harmony before; it would also induce designing and dangerous men to aim at the supremacy in order to effect objects unjust and dishonorable in their character. That alterations can be made to the benefit of the nation in the disposition made of the annuity, I am not prepared to deny; it is also evident that the number of their chiefs is unnecessary, and their laws in many instances are uncalled for, not to say absurd and ridiculous; but the reform required in these matters had better be left to themselves, and be effected gradually, by the force of time, circumstances, and their own experience. I am satisfied that an attempt to change their affairs and concerns, at the present time, would only lead to results the very opposite to that sought for.

The Creeks are on terms of friendship with all the neighboring tribes, and the best understanding and harmony prevails among them, with one exception, which is the Seminoles, who are virtually the same people; there is a mutual feeling of dislike and jealousy existing between the two tribes, which has been engendered, not alone from the fact of the Creeks having assisted in the late war against them, but from long settled hate and antipathy growing out of the causes that effected their separation, and vexed questions of ownership to certain negro property in the possession of the Seminoles. There are many fierce, intractable and obstinate spirits on both sides, who, upon the slightest provocation, would not hesitate to widen the breach between them. I am not aware that I have cause to anticipate the occurrence of difficulties; but that they have been prevented by the peaceful course and disposition of the Creek chiefs, and the prudent advice and watchful care of the Seminole agent, Mr. Duvall, is most certain; and through their medium is to be expected the eventual friendly settlement of the questions at issue between them. Many of the Seminoles are

settled among the Creeks in different parts of the nation; the main body of them, however, settled on the Little River, a branch of the Canadian, in the southwestern corner of the nation, and upon the verge of the immense prairies that extend from there to the Rocky mountains.

The health of the country is unusually good for the season of the year.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES LOGAN,
Creek agent.

Col. SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD,
Acting Superintendent, Western Territory.

No. 13—A.

CREEK AGENCY, C. N.,
September 8, 1848.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the War Department, I send you the following report of the Presbyterian mission school among the Creek Indians, located near the Creek agency:

My labors in this school commenced on the first of June, and were continued until the vacation, which commenced on the first of September.

It is with pleasure I inform you that my labors, which were so recently commenced at this place, have been abundantly rewarded in the progress of the scholars—the most of whom, however, have been attendants upon other schools established from time to time in the neighborhood.

During the past three months, commencing on the first of June and ending with the last day of August, there has been an *irregular* attendance of about 25 scholars, but a more regular attendance of about 18 scholars.

The studies pursued were as follows, viz.: spelling, reading, writing and arithmetic.

The progress of the scholars has been, in all respects, equal to what is common in schools in the United States.

I am, dear sir, yours, most respectfully,

DAVID W. EAKINS.
By the General Assembly's Board of Foreign Missions.

Col. JAMES LOGAN,
Creek Agent.

No. 13—B.

CREEK AGENCY, *September* 21, 1848.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to inform you that on last evening I received a letter from Walter Lowrie, esq., Secretary of our Board of Missions, dated 29th August, in which he says: "I have received from the War Department a circular requiring information to be given to the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, (Mr. Rutherford) as follows:—the situation of the buildings, the progress that has been made in their erection, and the *probable time* when the establishment will be ready for the reception of scholars."

I therefore hasten to comply with this requisition in regard to the Creek manual labor boarding school under the care of the Presbyterian board of foreign missions.

1. "The situation of the buildings." These are pleasantly situated between the Arkansas and Verdigris rivers, about 1½ miles from the former, and 2 miles from the latter; about 2¼ miles from the Creek agency, and about 3 miles from the steamboat landing. They are placed upon a high, dry, and beautiful ridge, connected with a good body of land for cultivation, and we think the situation will prove as healthy as the country affords. It is well supplied with wood and water.

2. "The progress that has been made in their erection." A report of this has lately been made through our agent to the government. I will, however, again state that we have erected several buildings at the new station, viz: a double log house 1½ stories high, with two rooms below and two above, 18 by 16 feet each, hewed inside and out. This is intended for a dwelling house at present, and for a work-shop for the boys when the school is put in operation; a large and substantial hewed log meat-house, 20 feet square; a crib and stable, 14 by 20 feet each, with a cutting-room between of 6 by 20, all covered under same roof. A large well has been dug, affording excellent water, and has been walled up with stone. Other improvements are being made at the station which will be important for the successful operation of the school, as soon as the main building is finished. The work on the main building has been much hindered for the want of good and responsible workmen. But that difficulty has been overcome; good workmen have been obtained, and the work is going forward vigorously. The stone foundations, which are very substantial, are nearly complete. The brick for the building are nearly all made. All parts of the work are progressing very well; and we think this extensive building will be completed as soon as could be reasonably expected from the nature of the case.

3. "The probable time when the establishment will be ready for the reception of scholars." If the calculations of the workmen be correct, we will probably be ready by the 1st of July next.

I will also beg leave to report, that—

4. The expenditures for the school and farm, for the erection of buildings, purchase of wagon and team, furniture, &c., &c., amount

to about $3,639 37. Other accounts will soon be due, which will swell the sum considerably more. The vouchers for these expenditures will be forwarded to W. Lowrie, esq., New York, from whom I have received the money, and who will settle with the government for the same.

With much esteem, I remain your obedient servant,

R. M. LOUGHRIDGE.

Colonel Samuel M. Rutherford,

Acting Sup't, &c., Western Territory, Choctaw Agency.

No. 13—C.

Asbury M. L. School, *September* 8, 1848.

Sir: I hasten to inform you of the condition and extent of the operations of the missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church south, connected with the Creek nation. Our work here, for several years past, has been carried on almost entirely on the circuit plan, white and native men both being employed in the work. These, for the most part, had to be unmarried men, owing principally to the great difficulty in any thing like a permanent family missionary residence, the leading policy of the nation being opposed to any and to all very extended and active missionary operations among them. But whatever now may be the feelings and views of a few of the leading men of the nation, with reference to the present and future good of the people, one thing is certain, they are behind the times. The common people, with many prominent leaders, are very far in the advance of them. Customs and usages, however ancient, are fast passing away; those of a higher and superior order are now obtaining, to the great satisfaction of a large portion of the Creek people. Many of them are quitting the ball play and the dance, which is sometimes made a ground of complaint against the missionary.

The majority of the Creek people are now in favor of educating their children, and adopting the habits of civilized life. During the past two years the demand has been repeatedly made, and with increased interest, for books, schools, missionaries, and teachers.

Could whiskey be kept out of the Creek nation, I see no earthly reason why they might not soon rank with the foremost of the tribes in point of general improvement. The Creek has a pliable, expansive mind. He is teachable; his habits, though of long standing, give way before the light of truth. Let but once the same amount of means and instrumentalities be brought to bear upon the Creek people that some of the other tribes have already been favored with, and the good accomplished will be more than double that in any other instance. We are led to this conclusion from facts as they present themselves in the history of benevolent enterprize, connected with other portions of the great mission field. But to the matter before us. Until the last session of the Indian mission conference, the Creek nation remained an integral part of

the Cherokee district, when it was made a separate charge, and divided into three mission stations, in view of its becoming a full district. T. B. Ruble was appointed to it, and also the superintendency of the Asbury M. L. school. He received his appointment in November, but did not succeed in getting the site for the requisite buildings, and a farm located, until late in the month of January. In this he had the efficient aid of Colonel Logan, Creek agent, and the hearty concurrence of Colonel Rutherford, superintendent western territory. The site is within less than a mile of the north fork, and five miles of its junction with the Canadian, south of the former and northwest of the latter. The river is sufficiently commanding, with good land for farming; good timber on the north and west, and quite a sufficient supply of water for all necessary purposes. The location is generally thought to be a good one, and as healthy as any to be found in the country.

Soon after the site was determined on, a purchase of some improvements on, and necessary to, the location, was made from the widow owning them, for three hundred dollars. These consist of about thirty acres cultivated land under good fence, a comfortable hewed log house, about twenty feet square, with a porch in front, smoke house, kitchen, stables, with a tolerable supply of fruit trees, &c. In February a contract was agreed on for the stone and brick work, with Webster & Reed, of Fort Smith, Arkansas; and, in the month of April a contract was entered into with J. J. Denny, esq., of Louisville, Kentucky, to furnish material and do the carpenter work. But notwithstanding the contractors commenced preparations immediately, little was done towards the buildings before the first of May. Since then the work has been progressing slowly. The foundation was completed and the corner stone laid on the 19th day of July. The occasion was one of much interest to the Indians, many of whom attended, with several of the principal chiefs. Notwithstanding the day was very hot, the addresses and all elicited the closest attention from them. When they were told by a native speaker that this was what they had been trying to get for several years past, they responded most heartily. All expressed themselves as much pleased with what they heard and saw. The building will be 110 feet long by 34 wide, with porch ten feet wide in front, three stories high, including the basement. Leaving out the halls, there will be twenty-one rooms, including those in the attic. The basement will be of stone, the balance brick. It is believed now that the building cannot be completed before next fall. We hope, however, that we may get into it before that time. But there are many hindrances in putting up so large a building here; suitable hands hard to obtain; transportation difficult.

On the farm we have raised about fifteen acres of corn—six of oats—some potatoes, &c. Two wagons, two yoke of oxen, two cows and calves, with some harness, hoes, spades, axes, &c., have been purchased for the use of the farm.

A Sunday school has been taught at the place part of the time since last spring. A regular day school was commenced the 8th of August, taught by Rev. W. A. Cobb, but is now suspended,

until after the approaching session of the Indian mission conference. The school was necessarily small, as we were only able to take in a few boys, the balance having to come some distance. Our school house is only a temporary affair, and not well adapted to the fall and winter season. The children in attendance were nearly all in the spellers, but made very respectable improvement for the time. The school will be commenced again as soon as practicable.

We have regular preaching at this place, and a society of some 50 members, mostly on trial. One-half of the above number, or more, have placed themselves under the watch care of the church during the past few weeks, and nearly the whole number since last spring. The spirit of improvement is very plainly at work among the people all around us.

North fork and Little river mission.—To this, Rev. W. D. Collins, with Rev. Daniel Asbury, a native preacher, were sent at the last session of the conference. There were in the society and under religious instruction, as last returned, 257 members, and 19 preaching places. This mission includes a large portion of the nation. But very little opposition exists any more among them to the gospel.

Creek agency mission.—Rev. W. A. Cobb was appointed to this work, and has labored there a good part of the past year. A native acted as his interpreter. The last returns show 315 under the watch care of the church, and 20 preaching places.

Mrs. Collins, who has had charge of the Muskogee mission school, near the Creek agency, reports as follows: "This school was established in February last. At its first organization, the number of children in attendance was small, and mostly very irregular in their attendance. The school, however, soon increased in numbers, and the children became more punctual in their attendance. Sixty names are now on the list, but many of them have entered school during the last few weeks, and many others have been absent from school from various causes, so much so that I think the average number in attendance during the term will not exceed 25. The scholars generally have made good proficiency, and some have advanced rapidly. Two little girls, in particular, whose English names are Martha Marshall and Elizabeth Brodnax, the former daughter of the second chief of the nation, the latter the daughter of Doctor Brodnax, have made unusually rapid improvement for the time they have been in school. I have been engaged in teaching among the whites for the last twelve years, and have never seen children among them make better proficiency than have these Indian youths who have attended school regularly. The girls have been instructed in plain sewing and embroidery, in which they manifest much skill. Thirteen of the students have been learning to write, nine have been studying geography, seven arithmetic, and two English grammar. All in attendance have received oral instruction in arithmetic and geography. There has

been a manifest improvement in the general deportment of the children, and I trust religious impressions made which will be lasting. At the commencement of the school, many of the boys were often kept away by attending ball plays, night dances, &c., but most of them have been induced to refrain from attending such places, especially ball plays on the Sabbath.

A Sabbath school of considerable interest has been sustained; many of the children are able to recite lessons from the Scriptures, while others recite from Caper's Catechism. The beneficial effects of the Sabbath school are very apparent. Twenty-one of the children, who are able to understand it, have signed the temperance pledge, and, so far as we have ascertained, all have kept it, with one exception."

The missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church south, have had four missionaries employed in this work the past year, three white and one native, besides others who act as interpreters. Some 622 are connected with the church and receive religious instructions. One thousand copies of a hymn book, of about 100 pages, in the Creek language, and also 1,000 copies of a small spelling book have been published by the board for gratuitous distribution among them. These they soon use to great advantage, as they learn to read their own language in a very short time. The instruction of the children and the cause of temperance each receive due attention.

Most respectfully, yours,

T. B. RUBLE,
P. E., Muskogee district.

Col. JAMES LOGAN,
Creek agent.

No. 13—D.

NORTH FORK, CREEK NATION,
July 26, 1848.

Report of the Baptist mission, under patronage of the American Indian mission, located at Louisville, Kentucky.

The society have been aiding a few men, mostly natives, for the last few years. Until December, they did not have a white man in the Creek nation. Great prosperity has attended the churches. The preaching of the natives has interested the tribe, and the different churches have always had large congregations, and at most of the monthly meetings have received members. Six years since the number of members in the nation did not exceed 150, with two churches and two or three preaching places.

At present there are seven Baptist churches and about ten preaching places, with 550 communicants. The denomination have had

superior native assistants. Rev. Joseph Island, whom every person loves to speak highly of, died last March. He was the first minister of the North Fork church, and continued their beloved pastor, in labors abundant, until death. At the time of his death the church numbered 175; now it numbers 210. Those added since have been deeply affected by his loss, and, no doubt, his death has been the means of their conversion. The society now have—

Rev. Americus L. Hay, at North Fork town.
Rev. James Perryman, native, at Big Spring.
Rev. Andrew Frazier, native, at Elk creek.
Brother Sti-sock-kee, native, at Elk creek.
Brother Yan-too-chee, native, at Creek agency.
Brethren Jacob, Jesse, and Harry, Black-men.

A school was commenced last January—now has 30 scholars. For a day school the attendance is excellent. Five could read in easy lessons, and three spell words of one syllable. At the close of the first session, of 22 weeks, 21 were reading. Eight learned their letters first day by using the musical alphabet. The school could now have 100 pupils if the society could board them, but they have not the means, and would ask government aid. This they have done, and hope to succeed. The people ask for schools. They see how much benefit the Choctaws have received from their excellent boarding schools. They are much pleased that they are to have two in successful operation soon, and wish for another, conducted by the American Indian mission.

The classes in the Baptist school at North Fork are as follows: Six in third Eclectic Reader, Ray's Arithmetic, second part, Olney's Geography, and writing; eight in Eclectic Reader, second part Ray's Arithmetic, first part, six in First Reader, eight spelling, two in alphabet. The school has been taught one session of twenty-two weeks, and two weeks of the second session. Twenty-two of the scholars began in their letters. All are intent to learn, with the happiest feeling for each other, and dearly loving their school.

But a day school will not answer the purpose of education for the tribes. The Indian youth should be taught farming, and some of the simple trades, and the girls house-keeping. This is not likely to be done, only in the manual laboring schools. The government can, to the greatest extent, advance the true interest of the tribes, by establishing boarding schools. If the Indians should not recommend this course at the time, a good school will recommend itself to any tribe in a very short time.

At no time in the history of the Creeks has such great prosperity attended them as now. Several of the principal chiefs have united with the different churches, and are sending their children to school. Within the last six months seventy-five have united with the different Baptist churches in the nation. Congregations are becoming larger at each meeting. Our agent, no doubt, will speak of the secular condition of the Creeks. A bright day is dawning on the Creeks. Already the bright light is seen in every direction.

Will Colonel Logan, agent of the Creeks, accept of this report, and forward it to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs?

Yours, respectfully,

AMERICUS L. HAY,
Missionary of the A. I. M.

Colonel James Logan.

No. 14.

Chickasaw Agency,
August 22, 1848.

Sir: Having made a report in March last, I shall have but little to say in this. Since my last annual report, fifty-two Chickasaws have emigrated, but a large majority of them have located in the Choctaw district; they were persuaded to do so by interested persons, and also by some of the Chickasaws who are opposed to their people coming into the district, but some of the heads of those families have visited the district, and are very much pleased with it; some observed that they would not go a half mile to see a better country and are determined to move in early this fall.

The last of February I sent to Colonel Richard M. Johnson's school, in Kentucky, thirteen boys, and brought back thirteen to the nation; there were fourteen at the school, but one, a half-breed, by the name of Thomas, refused to return. After arriving at Louisville, Kentucky, he obtained employment on a steamboat and preferred to remain. I am happy to say that those that did come home, looked well, were well clad, and are very steady; all of whom can read and write. In our war with Mexico, there were three Chickasaws engaged. Mr. George Thomas, who was at New Orleans at the time they were raising volunteers, joined one of the companies, which was disbanded when the twelve months volunteers arrived at Camargo. Amos Colbert, a boy eighteen years of age, and Ti Chuck, a full blood Chickasaw, made their way to San Antonio, and there volunteered for the war; and, from what I can learn, they done good service; they have just arrived at home.

In May last, a delegation of eight Chickasaws visited Washington city on business of their nation. Colonel James McLaughlin, chief of the Chickasaws, was one of the delegation; they have all arrived at home in good health, and appear very much pleased with their visit; that is, those that I have seen. They have not yet informed the Chickasaws what they have done, but the chief has called a council of all the tribe, to collect on the 15th day of September next, at which time all things done will be explained to them.

The health of the Chickasaws (those who live in the district) has been unusually good this year; there are those who live at so great a distance from the agency that it is impossible to know their condition.

Their crops this season are very fine, better than I have ever known them; abundance of corn has been raised, and thousands of bushels to spare; large crops of wheat have been raised in the district; it will average from 25 to 30 bushels per acre, and weight, 67 pounds to the bushel; in a year or two no flour will be brought into the country from Arkansas or Missouri for sale; the Indians will make their own.

Their stocks of horses, cattle, and hogs, are increasing very fast; in this country heifers generally have calves at two years old; the Chickasaws are paying more attention to raising hogs than formerly.

Mr. G. S. Love has a fine grist mill, and also a threshing machine to clean wheat, moved by horse power. Colonel Benjamin Love has a horse mill, and a threshing machine is to be attached to it; Mr. Thomas Mitchell a horse mill and cotton gin; Mr. James Colbert, Jackson Kemp, Pitman Colbert, and Mrs. Susan Jones, all have cotton gins, and all raise fine crops of cotton. Mr. Harvey Bacon has a mill with water power; Colonel W. R. Guy, a saw and also grist mill, to grind corn and wheat; Isaac Love has a mill with water power, and in the course of one or two years, several other mills will be erected.

The Chickasaw district is a beautiful country; it is beautiful to the eye, and there is a large quantity of first quality land, equal to any I ever have seen—I never saw any that would produce better, and it is large enough for two such tribes, and it is a healthy country. In fact there are but few of the Chickasaws that know anything about what kind of a country they have. This spring I took a short trip west, and was perfectly astonished to see so fine a country unoccupied. Not long since I was conversing with Mr. Jesse Chisholm, a half-breed Cherokee, who is a man of good observation, and has travelled all over the south and west (west of the States) and all through New Mexico, and he says this is by far superior to any country he had ever seen.

Several of the streams in the district afford ample water power for mills and machinery of any kind. I visited this spring a creek that had a fall of 99½ feet, with water sufficient to run twenty thousand spindles. This creek is not more than 25 miles west of my agency. I am in hopes I shall be able to persuade some of the wealthy Chickasaws to erect a cotton factory at the place. I have in a former report mentioned that there were several valuable mineral springs in the district, among which may be found the "oil spring." A number of persons from Texas, besides Indians of various tribes, have visited this spring this summer and find it very beneficial. Some, who were very much afflicted with the rheumatism, were cured almost immediately.

I have heard of no complaints for the last few months of any of the several tribes of Indians that pass through this country, except the Cherokees. There is a party of them that continue to steal wherever they go. A few days since I was called on by a gentleman from Missouri, for assistance to follow some Cherokees that had stolen ten head of horses and mules from him as he was pass-

ing through the nation to Texas. He had two wagons, and they stole all his horses except two. The notorious "Tom Starr" was one of the party, so the gentleman informed me; (he had seen Starr once before.) I regretted that it was out of my power to render him assistance, as we have only a few infantry at Fort Washita—a part of a company—and only one officer; and yesterday I was called on by some Indians to know if I could aid them in recovering some horses that were stolen from them by the Cherokees, but I could do nothing for them, only advise them to go in pursuit themselves.

Without we have at least one company of dragoons at Fort Washita, we can never put a stop to those villians, both white and red, that commit depredations upon the good and peaceable citizens of this dirtrict.

There are two difficulties in the way that prevents the Chickasaws from being as harmonious as they would and ought to be. 1st, the Choctaw laws which extend over them; and 2d, that a large portion of the Chickasaws are living out of their district, and those who live out of the district, away from their own people, complain most of the oppression of the laws, and are the most dissatisfied portion of the tribe, and throw more obstacles in the way in carrying out the wishes of the government than all the balance of the tribe; and I would most earnestly suggest that all the public blacksmith shops be ordered by the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs to be located in the Chickasaw district. It would in a very few years prove of great advantage to the whole tribe. They would become more contented and friendly; but, as they now are situated, they never will be. I am in hopes the honorable Commissioner will carry out my suggestions, *as I do know it will prove a blessing to the Chickasaws.*

Were all the Chickasaws in their own district, you would hear no talk of wanting a new country; and I can see no reasons why the Choctaws would not be willing to withdraw their laws from over the Chickasaw district, if the Chickasaws were all in it. The country would stand as it now does; and what benefit can it be to the Choctaws to hold their laws over the Chickasaws? Were the Choctaws to withdraw their laws from over the Chickasaw district, I have no doubt in my mind that the two nations would be much more friendly than they now are, or ever will be, so long as the laws of the Choctaws are over the Chickasaws, and I would earnestly *recommend* to the *government* to *use its influence* to make the *above arrangement.*

I have thought it best to send the report of Rev. Westley Browning, respecting the progress and condition of the Chickasaw academy, as made out by himself, that you and the honorable Commissioner may know exactly what has been done.

The Rev. Mr. Couch has been preaching among the Chickasaws for the last eight or nine months, and as far as I can learn, he is well received and is doing much good for the people.

The blacksmiths have all discharged their duty well this year; I have not heard a single word of complaint made this season.

I regret to say that there is more whiskey brought into the nation this year than has been brought in for several years past. The most is obtained at Fort Smith, Arkansas. The Indians go there and purchase large quantities and bring into the nation.

All up and down Red river, on the Texas side, you will find whiskey shops. The Indians sometimes will give their horses, ploughs, and in fact, any thing they have for whiskey. One of those whiskey dealers will take an Indian's new plough for a gallon of whiskey, without the least ruffle of conscience.

I am happy to say that the Chickasaws are becoming more and more industrious every year; none of them are hunters, only occasionally for amusement.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

A. M. M. UPSHAW,

U. S. Indian Agent for the Chickasaws.

Colonel S. M. Rutherford,

Acting Superintendent, W. Territory.

No. 14—A.

Chickasaw Academy, *August* 23, 1848.

Sir: The work of preparation for this school, located about ten miles northwest from Fort Washita, was commenced on the first of last January, and the progress made therein to this date is, in

Buildings,

one rough log cabin with end sheds attached, affording shelter at present to fourteen persons. One hewed log meat house, eighteen by twenty feet, sufficient to hang twenty or twenty-five thousand pounds of meat, finished, except the painting. One corn house, ten by twenty feet, shaded all around, for stable and wagon purposes. One hewed log building, twenty by thirty feet, two stories high, covered, and doors and windows cut; designed according to the plan of the institution for mechanics' shops, but which will be prepared as soon as practicable as a domicil for our families, workmen, and hands. The above buildings are intended, both in regard to structure and position, to form an integral part of the general plan of buildings, and are, consequently, put up in a substantial and durable manner.

I may add that all three of our workmen here wrought but little for the last six weeks, in consequence of sickness.

Farm and farming.

In this department our work is more advanced. For the first month or more I could procure no laboring hands, but by the middle of February I had employed four—in March two, and in April

two more, and for the last four weeks we have had ten. We cleared a lot of near four acres sufficiently early to plant with a variety of vegetables, which have already been of great service to us, and will be sufficient for the coming fall and winter. We have enclosed over fifty acres of wood land, with a fence nine rails high, and cleared and planted about eighteen acres with corn, the appearance of which is good. The balance of this enclosure is now chopped off and ready for rolling and burning; and a small part broken and sowed with turnip seed. We have over 14,000 rails made, and perhaps 11,000 or more of them put up.

The work has at all times appeared to progress slowly, and yet when it is remembered that we began not quite seven months ago, in a dense unbroken forest, in which was growing the wood of most of the implements with which the work has been performed, we look around us with feelings of gratitude and pleasure.

There are indications that the interest of the Indians in the enterprise is increasing, but when we shall have the pleasure of inviting them to send in their children to the school is uncertain. I conceive it quite impolitic to begin the school until we shall have erected our large boarding house, and shall have raised a good supply of provisions towards its support. When this shall have been accomplished, we shall have sufficient room to appropriate to just such a school as we would wish to begin with. One thing only we promise: that if means are not lacking, attention and effort shall not be wanting to as early a commencement as reason can require.

I am sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WESLEY BROWNING.

Col. A. M. M. Upshaw,
U. S. Agent for Chickasaws.

No. 15.

Neosho Sub-agency,
September 9, 1848.

Sir: In obedience to the regulations of the Indian Department, I have now the honor to submit my annual report of the affairs of this sub-agency, and of the condition of the Indians subject to my charge.

You are aware that I entered on the duties of my office on the 24th of June, and, in a short time after, I went for the half-year's annuity belonging to the several tribes. After my return, I was engaged, up to the 1st instant, in paying them off, &c. Of course it is not expected that my knowledge of their condition in morals, civilization, and in agriculture, would be as satisfactory as I would wish. I shall, therefore, confine myself to such matters as have come under my own observation, and such information as I have derived from others.

There are three small tribes located within the bounds of this sub-agency, to wit: the Seneca, Senecas and Shawnees, and Quapaws. I shall speak of them in the order here named.

The Senecas numbered, on the 15th day of August, the time they received their annuity, fifty-five men, thirty-nine women, and fifty children—total one hundred and forty-four.

The land belonging to this tribe lies west of the western boundary of Missouri, and runs to the Neosho; it is from twelve to fourteen miles north and south, and from eight to ten miles east and west; about one-third being prairie of the best kind, and well adapted to raising corn, wheat, oats, beans, potatoes, &c.; the upland I consider good, and is well supplied with plenty of timber of various kinds. The most of them look to farming for a support, and, from the appearance of their fields, I would say that they would raise enough for the present year.

The Senecas and Shawnees numbered, on the 30th August, sixty-four men, eighty-six women, and one hundred and three children; total, two hundred and fifty-three. Their land lies north of the Senecas; is about six miles north and south, and from eight to ten miles east and west. It is divided into about equal parts of prairie and timber, and is about such land, or not quite as good, as the Senecas'. These people are, with a few exceptions, industrious and quite civil. They will raise enough for a support, and some few of them will have a surplus. I consider them more engaged in agriculture than either of the other tribes within this sub-agency.

The Quapaws numbered, on the 18th August, fifty three men, fifty-nine women, and one hundred and nine children—total two hundred and twenty-one. Their land lies north of the Senecas and Shawnees, and is about six miles north and south, and extending, from the western boundary of Missouri to the Grand river, from ten to fifteen miles east and west, and is mostly prairie. Their land is good, and beautifully lined with groves of timber, which makes it fine for raising stock. They are engaged in agriculture, but not to the same extent as the other two tribes, though, from appearance, they will raise plenty for a support.

The health of the several tribes has been good the present year, although I am informed that, in a few years past, they have suffered much from sickness. Since my residence among them, but one has died.

What kind of religion, if any, exists among these tribes is totally unknown to me, and from conversation I had with others, they gave me no account of any particular system of worship. It is true they have their regular dances, which they say is intended as an offering to the "Great Spirit" for his kindness to them. About the 20th of August they have a yearly festival, or corn dance, in which the whole nation assembles at the council house. They bring with them all kinds of produce raised during the year; the women cook it. They will dance for two or three days, and spend their time in eating and dancing, for the purpose of returning thanks to the "Great Spirit" for a plentiful harvest.

The Senecas, Senecas and Shawnees, have, as yet, refused to let teachers come among them for the purpose of educating their children. It shall be a duty that I will cheerfully perform, to use all my influence among these tribes to try and eradicate a notion so much at war with their social and moral happiness; and I am in hopes, before another year rolls around, to see missionaries settled among them. They are already beginning to see the advantages of it from their neighbors, the Quapaws.

The introduction of whiskey into the Indian county has been the great cause, as I think, why our red brethren have made such slow progress in civilization; to prevent its use has been the anxious and earnest desire of the Department. That men settle along the line for the sole purpose of selling them liquor, no man acquainted with the Indian country will deny. The laws of Missouri, and the late regulations of the Department, are adequate to check that *nefarious traffic*, if fully put in force by the several agents and State officers; and, at the same time, a proper appeal being made to the virtuous and good to frown down with contempt any man who engages in it. In all my councils I invariably bring the subject of liquor to the notice of the chiefs and head men, and urge upon them the propriety of their using their influence with the Indians to prevent them from drinking whiskey. They have promised me their hearty co-operation, and I have had the pleasure to see the chiefs, in full council, to their nation, advise them not to use it. Another mode I consider a wise and salutary one, and that is for the several agents to urge them to establish temperance societies. The example being set to a few, it is more than likely that in a short time it would extend its influence among others until much good may be done.

I enclose you (marked A) the report of the Rev. Samuel G. Patterson, superintendent of Crawford Seminary, located in the Quapaw country.

This institution is exercising and gaining considerable influence among these Indians; they appear to be anxious that their children should become educated as the whites. The chiefs have promised me to use all the means in their power to urge their people to send their children to school.

I made a public examination on the 17th August, in the presence of the whole nation, of the advancement made by the pupils at school. I consider them gaining an education as fast as could be expected. Some are reading well in the Testament—a book quite necessary for them to become acquainted with. Some are writing and spelling. The houses are large and commodious; the farm is in good order, and well cultivated; the boys and girls are well clothed and fed; they are not only taught the observance of good manners and morals, but are forced to practice it; they have the example of the whole family, belonging to the mission, before them, which is strictly religious and moral. I consider Mr. Patterson well adapted to the task assigned him by the Methodist Epis-

copal church, and take pleasure in recommending him and the institution to the fostering care of the government.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. A. JAMES,
Neosho Sub-agent.

Colonel SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD,
Act. Sup. Ind. Aff., W. T., Choctaw Agency.

No. 15—A.

CRAWFORD SEMINARY,
Quapaw Nation, September 8, 1848.

SIR: At the termination of another year, it becomes my duty, as superintendent of the Crawford Seminary, to present to the War Department a brief report of this institution.

In doing this, it may be proper to state that this school was opened in the spring of 1842, under very unfavorable circumstances. Difficulties, growing out of our limited means of support during the first four years, brought about such a crisis in the affairs of the institution as, unless a new and more powerful impulse had been given to its movements, must have compelled us to abandon the enterprise entirely. Since May, 1847, we have been greatly encouraged to prosecute our labors with untiring energy, and the strong hold which the cause of education seems to have taken upon the minds of this people induces us to hope that the day is not far distant when this institution will compare favorably with the most flourishing in the Indian country.

Circumstances, which it was not in my power to control, prevented the erection of our new buildings at as early a period as was desirable.

It was deemed expedient to change the location to a more central point, about five miles distant.

The new establishment is beautifully situated near the east bank of the Pomme de Terre, or Spring river, immediately on the military road leading from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Smith, five miles west of Newton county, Missouri. The location is easy of access, pleasant, healthy, and fertile, and abounds with good timber, rock, water, and other conveniences.

The buildings are constructed on a convenient and economical plan, plain and substantial, and calculated to accommodate comfortably two families, several work hands, and forty Indian children. The farm is at a convenient distance from the house, and is well fenced and planted in corn, beans, pumpkins, melons, &c.

I have applied to the missionary board for funds to complete the workshops and furnish them with tools.

The school has been in successful operation at the new location since the first of April last.

The average number of pupils in attendance during the year has been twenty-four, only six of whom are girls. Our present number is twenty-eight.

About one-half of the children now at school have attended twelve or eighteen months, and are now spelling, reading, and writing well. The remainder have entered the school since we opened at the new location, and have made as much proficiency in learning as could have been expected.

The plan of instruction is based upon the principle that a little well learned is better than much half learned. Particular care is taken to teach and explain the leading principles of science, and to impart a thorough knowledge of the English language.

Six hours of each day are devoted to mental and moral instruction, and the remainder of the time to manual labor and suitable recreation.

The children are permitted to visit their homes on Saturdays, and required to attend Sabbath school and public worship every Sabbath. The government of the school is kind and parental, depending more upon the mutual confidence existing between teacher and scholars than in penalties and punishment for the violation of the rules of the school, but is uniform and decided.

The year is divided into four terms of eleven weeks each, which is closed by a public examination of all the students.

The present condition and prospects of the seminary warrant, and will call forth, every exertion to extend and increase its advantages.

I am, dear sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL G. PATTERSON,
Superintendent, Crawford Seminary.

B. A. James, Esq.,
Neosho Sub-agent.

No. 16.

Office U. S. Sub-Agency Great and Little Osage Indians,
September 1, 1848.

Sir: I have the honor to report to you the condition of the Indians within the limits of this sub-agency, so far as I have been able to make myself acquainted with it, since the very recent period of my appointment—of my assuming the duties of sub-agent.

The Great and Little Osages are divided into five bands, each of which has at its head a principal chief, with his subordinates, for the management of its affairs. The chiefs and head men have but little authority over their people; but their decisions in council (which is composed of the principal chief of each band) are final and absolute, the common Indians not even having a right to express their wishes, no deference being had to public opinion. The chiefs might, by pursuing a proper course, wield authority sufficient to make this a thriving and flourishing people—I need not

say happy and contented; their habit of thinking only of the present, and never reflecting on the future, constitute them the most cheerful and contented people with whom I have ever had any acquaintance. Were the chiefs men of the proper cast, they could make such regulations, and enforce them, as would prohibit entirely the introduction and use of intoxicating liquors, thereby often saving to the Indians, their wives and children, their blankets, their only protection from the inclemency of the season. They are not, however, men of sufficient firmness, of sufficient love of their people, to make and then set the *good example* of obeying and enforcing, for any length of time, such wholesome regulations. The nation has no laws, saving a few customs relating to hereditary rights; none to sustain and protect the interest of the common Indian. In case of murder, when the perpetrator of the crime is known, the guilty one can appease the relations of the deceased by gifts, by purchasing their friendship—constituting it a private affair, a mere personal transaction, in which the community has nor takes no interest.

The Osages depend entirely upon the chase for a subsistence—visiting the prairie in the spring and summer to obtain supplies of buffalo meat, tallow, &c. They are simple in their habits and customs, but remarkably friendly, social and polite to each other and to strangers—practising hospitality as a virtue; in fact, laws are not necessary to restrain and cause these people to respect the personal rights of each other. I have made inquiries, and have not been able to hear of any two Indians in the nation having a difficulty unless when in a state of intoxication. The Osages have been charged with having participated in the attacks upon the government trains on the Santa Fé route; I have, however, been unable to discover even the slightest circumstances tending to establish the fact; but, on the contrary, there are abundant reasons to induce me to believe they are, as a nation of people, sincerely attached to our government and citizens.

The agricultural prospects of the Osages are by no means promising, several circumstances combined having influenced them to become indolent, and to relax in those exertions formerly made to raise by cultivation sufficient for a subsistence. Ten years since, and these Indians not only raised corn, beans, potatoes, &c., to an extent equal to the home consumption and demand, but generally produced a surplus. Those acquainted with their early history—with their past and present condition, and who have observed the gradual change that has been effected in their habits, from a life devoted in part to agriculture and the chase to one devoted entirely to the chase, will all agree that a close proximity of the whites to the Osages has not had a tendency to ameliorate the condition of the latter. Much, very much, can, however, be said in extenuation; in behalf of the Osages in an agricultural point of view, they have labored under many disadvantages; knowing the use of no other, they now, and have hitherto, depended entirely upon the use of the hoe, as an agricultural implement, with which to plant and cultivate their crops: the exclusive use of which made the cul-

tivation of the earth, for a subsistence, both arduous and laborious upon their squaws, slaves or wives, in comparison to the most favorite plan of procuring a living. Upon the settlement of southwest Missouri, the consequent reduction to them in the value of breadstuff, and the increased facility for them to procure it, together with the circumstance of the high competition between the two trading companies, located here for several years; the high prices paid for furs, and the decreased value at which they disposed of their goods, in connexion with the fact of the Indians for two successive years having their crops entirely washed away by high waters, had the effect almost entirely to discourage, and cause them to abandon the culture of corn, and other articles necessary for a subsistence. Being an Indian of quick perception—fond of the chase—successful hunters, and nurtured in the belief that hunting was the most—the only honorable calling, it was only natural for them, under such circumstances, to prefer living by the chase exclusively—to take up and cherish the idea, it was preferable, when a bushel of corn could be bought for a coon skin, to hunt for the skin and make the purchase, than obtain the corn by cultivation. Living in close proximity to the settlements on Spring river, one of the most agricultural sections of Missouri, where they could barter a buffalo robe for twenty or twenty-five bushels of corn, and purchase flour for one dollar and fifty cents per hundred, the inducement was strong and the argument weighty to them, that a life by the chase was more preferable than a reliance (under such circumstances) upon agriculture and labor for a living.

Under such a state of things, the best exertions of the government agent, *if rendered*, could and did effect but little. I notice in the reports of your predecessor, that he represents the "game as getting scarce, and that the Indians would be compelled to rely on their industry and labor for a living." No doubt such was his belief, but certain the Indians did not view it at that time in the same light; these Indians have only come to a similar conclusion within the two or three years past. They now can see and give it as their opinion that ultimately they will have to make their living as the whites, that the game is fast diminishing from their hunting grounds, and that it is now time to make a gradual change in their way of living from a hunting to an agricultural life. The present is certainly the most propitious time to give these people encouragement to become farmers. In consequence of the large Indian population lately located on the frontier, they can easily be impressed with the idea that soon the time will come when they must labor or starve; that it will be impossible for them to sustain themselves by the chase. Once convinced of all this, it will be in the power of the government agent soon to change the nation from a wild, roving set of Indians, to that of settled agriculturalists. They are certainly deserving of the humane and friendly consideration of the government, having sold it a large portion of Missouri and Arkansas, together with a large portion of the Indian country west of Missouri. They have due them from government, oxen, wagons, and probably a few hundred head of milch cows, but this is

not the proper time to furnish them with such property. I can most earnestly recommend to your favorable consideration the propriety of having a farmer appointed for the Osages. The treaty provides for their wants in a very ample manner in every other respect, but so far as agricultural instruction is concerned, it is silent. It is a matter of great importance to them that they be induced to commence cultivating the soil during the balance of the time their limited annuity has to run; for under the treaty, the President can direct eight thousand dollars of their annuity to be paid in "goods, stock, &c."

Under these circumstances, should they now commence farming, it is possible they might be well provided for previous to the expiration of their limited annuity; as the President, in the event they should make even tolerable progress in farming, would doubtless have their farms well stocked under this provision of the treaty, such a disposition of the funds being of greater advantage to the nation than the payment in goods. Government has had at different times fields broke and fenced for them, but the fencing has either been allowed to burn down in the fall, when the prairies are burnt, or have been swept away by high waters, and the Indians have abandoned cultivating the land for reasons previously stated, that it was more profitable to live by hunting. I will speak for no Indians but the Osages, and with them experience teaches that individual property is prized much higher than a community of property, or property held in common for the use of the whole nation. The farms heretofore made have been held in common, each appropriating to his own use (during the season) a small portion.

At present the Osages only plant small patches on the creek bottoms, generally not more than half an acre in a patch, and at a distance from their towns, not within the range of their stock. These patches are broke up, planted and cultivated with the hoe, and are raised merely to feast on when they return from their hunting excursions on the plains. I am of the opinion, in the event the Department would allow the appointing a farmer to instruct them in the use of agricultural implements, to teach them how to hitch and work their mules, and to repair their ploughs when necessary, that these Indians would make more rapid progress in farming than any of their neighboring tribes. Being in the habit of using mules for riding, and acquainted with their management, they would learn to plough and work them with greater facility than oxen. They can easily be induced to sell a portion of their mules to enable them to have land fenced and broke, say from five to ten acres to each family; they can spare the mules for such a purpose, possessing as the nation does from ten to twelve thousand. These farms could be located near their lodges or towns, where it would be convenient for the whole family to perform a portion of the labor, and what is of more importance, having been made at the expense of the Indian, would be prized higher, and be better taken care of, than if it were a gift of the government. Should such a course of policy be carried out, the Indians would have something of value to leave behind them going on the hunt, and, as a natural

consequence, a portion of the nation would remain to take care of the home during the absence of the rest on the plains, when a foundation would be laid to stop their mingling with the wild Indians of the prairie, a matter of itself of great importance, as such association, to say the least of it, is contaminating in its influence. In the event anything is done to prevent their rambling on the plains, the transition to agricultural life can be easily effected. Their country is well adapted to raising wheat, corn, potatoes, &c.; and as the women are in the habit generally of performing most of the labor, the article of wheat can be raised to most advantage.

The Osages are on the most intimate terms with all their neighboring tribes, and in fact, with all the Indian nations on the frontier, with the exception of the Pawnees. The original cause of their difficulty has never been made known to me. They represent the Pawnees as being great rogues—constitutionally thieves, and as being the most successful Indians they meet on the prairie in stealing and running off their horses. They appear reluctant, living as they do on good terms with all the rest of their red brethren, and entertaining the belief it is necessary in order to ensure the happiness of their deceased friends to hang a scalp over their graves, to adjust their difficulties and make peace with the Pawnees; there would then be no enemy to whom they could turn their attention for scalps. We may hope that by using proper exertions in *effecting* and *perpetuating* so desirable an object, to see, at no distant time, the whole of the Indian tribes in the west living in peace and amity with each other. The Osages have been on the most intimate relations with the Comanches for a number of years, meeting them every season in the prairie for the purpose of trade. They have uniformly purchased a large amount of merchandise from the traders here in the spring, and carried to the prairie and bartered to that tribe. So very profitable has the trade been to each nation, it has had the tendency to cement them in the bonds of friendship. The Osages have carried to the Comanches guns, blankets, powder, lead, &c., and for a gun costing them at home twenty dollars, they have generally received one or two mules, worth to them on their return from forty to sixty dollars. The trade has proved equally profitable to the Comanches. Taking their guns into Mexico they would realize profits equally as great by bartering them to the Mexicans or other Indians in Mexican territory. The Osages received from the traders here, in the spring of 1847, twenty-four thousand dollars worth of goods, for which they pledged their annuity for that and the previous years. These goods they carried on the prairie and purchased with them from the Comanches near fifteen hundred head of mules, worth at that time sixty thousand dollars. Notwithstanding the intercourse between the two tribes has been so very profitable, yet its advantages have not been appreciated and improved by the Osages. It was and ever has been calculated to uphold them in the indolent life they appear so well to relish in their disposition to live without labor. On their return in the fall of 1847, with such a redundancy of property, it will not be varying much from the number for me to say

they sold five hundred head of mules for that number of gallons of whiskey, squandering in this way twenty thousand dollars worth of their property for the single article of intoxicating liquor, at the rate of forty dollars per gallon. There were then no government officers among them to protect their rights and see the salutary regulations of the Department enforced. On my entering the duties of agent, the crying evil, the use of ardent spirits by the Indians, soon became apparent. The Indians, in consequence of the introduction and use of whiskey, were constantly engaged in drunken revels, making it dangerous for what white people that were among them to remain, causing disease among themselves, and controversies which often resulted in the killing of some of the best of the Indian population. Under these circumstances, measures quick and decisive were necessary to be taken in order to cure the evil. Those who vended the liquor could not be reached, as none were cognizant of the fact but the two contracting parties, and thus the most stringent laws of Missouri were often violated and the perpetrator go unwhipped of justice; the laws of the State not admitting of Indian testimony against a white man.

After my taking charge of this office, the retailers of spirits to the Osages ceased to bring it into the Indian country, yet the Indians would often visit the State, bring the spirits into their country and retail it to their own people for their mules, blankets, &c., and at times, *probably in every instance*, would be acting as the agent of some unscrupulous white man. The Indians were fast sacrificing their property, and reducing their women and children to starvation. Under all these circumstances, having the interest of the Indians, the welfare of the whites located here, and the peace of the frontier at heart, I visited their towns, lectured them on the many disadvantages accruing to their people, consequent upon the introduction of whiskey into their country, and finally informed them it was not my object in visiting them to prevail on them to make laws and regulations to prevent its introduction, but that my object was to inform them, the next Indian who brought whiskey into the nation I would have taken by the dragoons and imprisoned at Fort Scott, in the guard house. Through the petitions of the principal warriors the Indians who were gone to the State were allowed to return with their whiskey without being subject to imprisonment, provided it was found out and none allowed to be drank; this had the effect of causing some twenty gallons to be spilled, which otherwise might have possibly been smuggled into the towns and used, an amount sufficient among these Indians to have caused the death of that number of persons. The regulation proclaimed by myself, backed by the troops of their great father, and admitted by the principal chief, (who accompanied me,) to be good, had the desired effect, the Osages being now a sober and temperate people. The regulation was made in February, and there has been (with two exceptions) no intoxicating liquor introduced into the country since. I hope, sir, in having pursued this course, to receive the approbation of yourself and the Department; if, however, I should be disappointed in that, my mind will ever

be relieved by the consoling reflection that no other course could have been adopted that would have effected the desired object. These Indians are all fond of drinking, yet a large majority can see the impropriety of indulging, and many consequently refrain from visiting the State, for fear they will be tempted to drink, knowing that when once started nothing short of a full satisfaction will suffice, and that in drunken sprees they frequently sacrifice more or less of their property. The most ample provisions are made by the United States' laws to suppress the introduction into the Indian country and the vending of intoxicating liquors to the Indians; no provisions can be added nor amendments made to it that would better adapt it to the laudable object intended, yet it is not equal to effecting the desired object, where the allurements to carry on the traffic are so great. The distance of holding the courts is so great, that its enforcement is not only inconvenient but difficult. This law has, however, exercised a very wholesome influence, and has protected, to a great extent, the interest of the Indians. It is not the introduction of intoxicating liquors into the Indian country and the sale of them to the Indians by the whites, that operates so seriously to the disadvantage of the Osages. That traffic I have effectually checked. A portion of them will, however, cross the line into the State, purchase whiskey, and return back into the Cherokee country (known as the neutral land) and there drink it, being afraid to bring it home. This, I have been informed, has been practised of late by a few of the Osages—I am happy to say only a few. It does not affect the interest of the nation for them to drink at such a distance from home, only by setting a bad example for the rest to follow, and by exercising a very pernicious influence over the participators in such drunken revels. If the Osages should generally take to this practice, my authority and influence over them *may be sufficient* to stop them in such a dissipated career. My reason for mentioning it here in this incidental way, is merely to show the importance of my suggesting that an enactment by the Missouri legislature (similar to that of the United States) admitting Indian testimony before grand juries, to find, and in the circuit court to sustain, indictments found upon the statutes, "prohibiting the selling or giving of intoxicating liquors to Indians." Such an enactment would be effective of much good to the Indian population located on her western border. I will say here, in justification of the citizens of Missouri, that public opinion is strong against the traffic carried on in vending of whiskey to the Indians, and that her legislature has passed and has now in force the most stringent laws prohibiting such a trade, and will doubtless make any amendment to them (within the bounds of reason) that will effect the desired object. It will be in my power to prevent the Osages from drinking in their own country, (they may indulge in the State,) and you may rest contented that they shall continue a sober nation of people while I remain among them as their government agent.

The trade of the Osages in consequence of their starting late, and making a bad hunt last fall, was not valuable. It amounted

to near six thousand buffalo robes, worth to them three dollars; ten thousand deer skins, averaging seventy-five cents each, and other peltries, about two thousand dollars, amounting at twenty-eight thousand dollars. They have been and are to this time an industrious, persevering Indian; while on the hunt capable and willing to endure the greatest hardship. Taking their trade for the last thirty years, and making a similar estimate, it appears from the best data in my possession to have been worth from eighty to one hundred thousand dollars a year, and amounting in thirty years to one million two hundred thousand dollars. At a fair estimate, (drawing my conclusion from an intimate knowledge of the Indian trade,) this vast amount of peltries has been purchased by the trading community with goods, the original cost of which did not exceed five hundred thousand dollars. Philanthropists can only wonder at and lament the stupendous fortunes realized off of the Indian trade with this single tribe, and they in none the better situation therefrom, not having profited by the trade. However, these remarks are not intended to cast any reflections upon the traders; doubtless they were actuated by as humane and philanthropic feelings as were common to the age. It does, however, indicate the greatness of this once powerful tribe of Indians, whose very name is to this day a "terror to the wild Indians on the prairie." The capital employed in the Indian trade within this agency at this time is near twenty thousand dollars. The trading establishments are conducted by gentlemen of intelligence and respectability, to whom much credit is due for their prompt attention and assistance in every thing the government has ordered to be carried into effect. That it is their imperative duty to aid and assist the goverment officer in many things, they are aware. It is, however, for that free and cordial assistance rendered me in suppressing the liquor trade, I award to them the meed of approbation.

Herewith is forwarded the report of the Rev. Father Schoenmakers, the principal of the St. Frances mission, the Osage manual labor school. An attempt has been made heretofore at educating the Osage youth, but from some cause it did not prove successful, and the enterprise, after considerable expenditure, was abandoned. The present establishment was put in operation by the government as an experiment, with the intention of improving on the foundation, if peradventure it should be found advantageous—equal to the undertaking of improving the mental capacities of the children of the nation. The Osages exercised their own partialities in the choice of missionaries to whom they should entrust the educating of their children, by making known their preferences in council to be for the black robes, (as they called them,) the Catholics, which denomination was accordingly contracted with (through their principal) to take charge of the school.

The establishment is divided into a male and female department, the former being conducted by three teachers, two of whom are teachers of the Catholic persuasion. The female department is conducted by four highly accomplished sisters, the principal of whom having been formerly engaged in the same capacity in the

very justly celebrated female school at St. Genevieve, Missouri. The school for the boys was opened on the 10th May, 1847. It commenced with a limited number of scholars, but they have gradually increased in number until they now amount to forty. The female school was commenced on the 10th of October of the same year, and now has in attendance twenty-five girls. The object of these worthy missionaries appears to be to give these children a common English education. The boys are taught spelling, reading, writing, and arithmetic, having certain hours set apart for manual labor; or, as I might more appropriately say, for agricultural instruction. The girls are also taught reading, writing, spelling, and arithmetic, and, in addition, sewing and knitting, and drawing for an amusement; they are also exercised in gardening at the proper time. The general system of education is such as is well adapted to prepare the pupils each to adorn their respective and appropriate spheres in common life. The pupils are about equally divided in each school, near half being full blooded Osages; indicating the very important fact that the Osages appreciate the importance and advantage of educating their children, and that the school is not only popular, but that it has the confidence of the Indians. The children appear happy and contented, and learn with greater facility than could be expected; they acquire a knowledge of penmanship more readily than the generality of white children, and are fully equal to them in some other branches. No doubt can be entertained of their capacity to receive instruction. The unmixed Osages, however, appear to learn with more readiness, and to progress faster than the half breeds. A considerable number of both boys and girls read and write well, and have made considerable progress in figures; being able to enumerate, add, multiply and divide numbers with ease and facility. From their dispositions, I entertain the fullest anticipation they will make rapid progress in geography. I can justly say, without depreciating the children of other tribes, that none equal those of the Osages in their capacity to receive an education. The buildings for their school are, and were not at first, such as the missionaries had reason to expect. They were intended to accommodate only twenty boys and the same number of girls, and for an experiment at educating the Osage children.

From the progress made by the pupils in learning, together with the popularity of the school among the Indians, we may reasonably and confidently infer that to enlarge the establishment would be to increase the benefits to the nation in a corresponding ratio. I have not the slightest doubt but the present worthy missionaries are fully competent and well calculated to confer on the Osage children the blessings of an education. Your attention is therefore asked to the propriety of erecting such buildings as will accommodate as many children as can be supported at school by the Osage school fund. I would recommend the erection of an additional building for the boys, (as they are already too much crowded for health,) the size to depend upon the number the Departmentdet ermines on having in attendance on the school at a time. The

building in which the female school is kept is in need of repair. One of the chimneys, in consequence of the inferiority of the bricks, has fallen down; the chinking in the cracks (it being a log building) was indifferently put in, and the material of which the mortar was made was principally soil, but very little lime being used—the consequence of which was, it soon washed out by the dashing rains so frequent in this country. Unless some repairing is done to this building, the school will certainly be abandoned. The Department will not *certainly* expect females to reside in so uncomfortable a building, when so small an appropriation would make it comfortable. It was the understanding this building should be weather-boarded, but it was never done. Had it been built in strict accordance with the contract it would have answered the purpose much better; but notwithstanding strict and entire justice has not been done the government in these buildings, yet, for the interest of the Osage children, and as an act of justice to these ladies, I feel compelled to urge in the strongest terms the obligations of the government to repair and make the buildings comfortable It was the understanding of the contracting parties that "suitable" buildings should be erected, furnished by government; and all I am now asking for these people is, that even-handed justice be done them. It would certainly be injudicious to allow this school to be abandoned when it bids fair to effect so much good. I certainly may hope soon to receive orders to have it repaired—made as it should have been under the contract.

I am able to inform you that the Osages are not divided at present (which is rather unusual) on any national question, nor are they operated on by any sectional or personal prejudices. All is peace and quiet through the nation, and, what is very important, no excitement whatever prevails.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JOHN M. RICHARDSON,
Osage Indian Sub-agent.

SAMUEL M. RUTHERFORD, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, W. T.

No. 16—A.

OFFICE OSAGE SUB-AGENCY,
April 14, 1848.

SIR: The unparallelled progress making by the Osage youths, at their manual labor school, induces me to call your attention to its situation.

From a letter of your predecessor (Mr. Crawford) to Major Harvey, superintendent Indian affairs, St. Louis, (under date of 25th of April, 1845,) it appears the present buildings were erected merely for an "experiment" for educating the Osage children; each building being calculated only for twenty scholars.

The school is ably and efficiently conducted by the Rev. Fathers

Schoenmakers and Bax for the boys' department; the female department by four sisters of the Sacred Heart, of the Catholic church.

The mission is beautifully situated in a healthy part of the country, on a slight eminence in the prairie, near to and on the east side of the Big Neosho, and immediately west of Rock creek. The present establishment, together with the farm and out buildings, cost something near three thousand five hundred dollars.

The school has certainly proved itself equal to the task of instilling into the minds of the Osage children the rudiments of a good English education; it has been in operation near twelve months, and many of the boys can write a good hand, read tolerably well, and have made considerable progress in arithmetic. The children appear to learn with great facility; they are happy and contented; it being a manual labor school, the boys are taught, out of school hours, the use of agricultural implements, and the girls to sew, make garden, and in fact everything connected with the domestic affairs of a family.

A large portion of the children at school are full blooded Osages, being of itself an evidence that the mission has the confidence of the Indians; that they attach some importance to an education, and are disposed to avail themselves of an opportunity to have their children educated. The school is certainly, if properly fostered and encouraged by the government, destined to be of incalculable advantage to the Osage nation.

The building for the boys is only intended for twenty; they have crowded into it at this time thirty-three—thirteen more than were provided for; many more have applied for admission for their children, but have been refused for want of room.

I would respectfully suggest the erecting a building sufficiently large, that the whole of the proceeds of the Osage education fund could be applied towards educating the children of the tribe *in their own country*, and at their *own mission*. I would further suggest, in the event a building is concluded on, a *roomy one* and a *good one* be erected. The present buildings are very indifferent, not worth two-thirds of their cost. If the fund will sustain 70 children, it appears a building 60 feet long, two stories high, and 30 feet wide, would be amply sufficient; such a one would cost (if it was a frame) from 1,500 to 2,200 dollars.

As it appears necessary, I will earnestly recommend and ask leave of the Department to contract for having a well dug for the use of the female school, and also for the building, a small house, say 18 by 22 feet, to answer the purpose of a barn, for the use of the female department of the mission. A good well of water is absolutely necessary for the health of the children and all concerned; the barn would be a great convenience; both the well and barn would not cost more than $150.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

JOHN M. RICHARDSON,
Osage Sub-agent.

Hon. W. Medill,
Com. Indian Affairs.

No. 16—B.

Osage Manual Labor School,
August, 1848.

Sir: In the middle of 1845, a resolution was passed at the Office of Indian Affairs, for establishing a manual labor school among the Osages, the progress of which it was hoped would insure lasting benefits to these Indians. Two buildings were consequently erected in 1846, being of sufficient dimensions to accommodate 20 pupils each, with the teachers; one of them to be devoted as a school for females, the other for male children. As it was hoped the Osages would avail themselves of the opportunity of education, the Office of Indian Affairs resolved to increase said school, and to erect, at the beginning of 1848, new buildings, should the Osages prove zealous for education. The efforts soon showed that they were not only ripe to change their mode of living, but also that they were deserving to have communicated to them the blessings of education and civilization. The Osages are convinced of the necessity of abandoning their hunting grounds, and to rely on their children for future support. With the exception of a very few, all seem eager to see their children raised like white people, in order that they may learn to speak their language and to imitate their industry. They have already sent a larger number of children than we can comfortably accommodate in our present circumstances. We have been, and still are obliged carefully to abstain from a positive refusal to receive their children, in order not to offend nor to quench their first favorable disposition.

On the 10th of May, 1847, we commenced the male school; but we were not a little terrified at the sight of the badly finished buildings. The great desire of parents to place their children under our tuition encouraged us in the undertaking. The rapid progress and perfect contentment of the first fourteen children drew soon a larger number of them. Many of these children begin to read and write well. They have a taste for arithmetic, and have already acquired a considerable knowledge of addition, multiplication and division. Geography has not yet been regularly taught, but we have reason to suppose that they will be equally successful in this as in any of the preceding branches. Parents and relatives are so much enamored with the American canticles as to make an attempt to imitate the good voices of these children; and what, perhaps, was the least expected, these children are moral and very submissive to their teachers. They are three hours daily exercised in agriculture or domestic exercises, according to a regular order prescribed to them at the beginning of each month.

The female school was opened on the 10th of October, 1847, under the care of four ladies. As to the capacity of these ladies, I need only mention that the superior has been for the last six years at the head of the flourishing female academy in St. Genevieve, Missouri. The same branches of learning, as mentioned above, are taught to their pupils, besides sewing, knitting, drapery,

and drawing; in a word, all that is necessary to make them useful mothers of families, able to instil industry and morality into the hearts of a future generation.

A few words on the state of the buildings: both houses have been so badly finished as to call for immediate repair, to protect us and the children against the inclement season; every visitor is satisfied that the Department never intended to make us live as uncomfortable as we have done hitherto. The superintendent, Major Harvey, promised me that both houses would be weather-boarded before last winter; he had directed Sub-agent Bunch to have the houses weather-boarded, but he failed to do it. The contractors, to suit their own interest, made mortar of mud, whitened with lime—sand has not been used; the consequence has been that the pointing of both houses is washed out by the rain, which makes the room swimming places after every storm; the plastering in the ladies' house is in great part fallen off from the ceiling, and partly from the division walls; one of the chimneys has tumbled down; the two others are in immediate danger, the bricks being little better than clay. I may say, in truth, that the houses are unfit for comfortable residences; moreover, they are too small to accommodate, to any satisfaction, our present number of pupils.

The existing well needs repair, it being, perhaps, the worst that ever was made by a contractor; another well is much needed for the female school, which is dependent on the one dry opposite to our house. The ladies have frequently applied for a barn and meat-house—they have no out-buildings whatsoever.

I hope I have said nothing but what can be testified by all who have visited this school. I have nothing exaggerated; we ourselves will be obliged, in order to afford some comfort to the ladies, to build for them a wash-house, milk-house, and root-house; all this, it seems, must be done at our expense, although we have sacrificed, in this first year, more than $1,600 of our scanty money.

We also desire to be distinctly informed as to the precise number of boys and girls the Department wishes we should have in attendance at our school.

Respectfully, yours,

J. SCHOENMAKERS.

Mr. John Richardson,
Sub-agent for the Osages.

No. 17.

Michigan Superintendency,
Detroit, November 6, 1848.

Sir: I have the honor to make the following communication in regard to the condition and affairs of the Indian tribes within this superintendency.

The Pottawatomies of Huron.—A remnant of this tribe have

purchased lands upon the head waters of the St. Joseph river, in the county of Calhoun, and have erected many comfortable dwellings and a school house, constructed fences, and made considerable progress in agriculture.

They are in charge of the Methodist missionaries, who have succeeded in securing a general and regular attendance at the school and religious meetings, and induced them to refrain from drink. They have generally assumed the dress of the whites; and, from their annuity, which is permanent, they have been able to procure farming utensils and stock, and a general appearance of comparative comfort mark their condition.

The Pottawatomies, parties to the treaty of 1829, own lands in Cass and Van Buren counties, upon which they have made some improvements, and erected a number of comfortable houses. Those of them at Pokagon village, are under the teachings of the Catholics, who have erected a church and school house, and have labored assiduously for their improvement in civilized manners and pursuits.

The Chippewas of Saginaw reside around Saginaw bay and along the rivers which empty into it; many of them are the proprietors of lands, upon which considerable improvements have been made.

These Indians have attracted the attention of different missionaries, who are laboring to bring them to understand the benefits of civilization, and their efforts have been blessed with good results; for, within the past five years, they have generally abstained from the use of whiskey, which was rapidly destroying them, and become sober and industrious. They are located in a section of great fertility of soil; the rivers abound with fish, and the forest with game; they are well supplied with utensils and stock; and, having the aid of a farmer and blacksmith, bid fair, under the instructions of the missionaries and teachers, to progress, and leave the succeeding generation much improved.

The Ottowas of Grand river.—A few of them own lands. Those at the Ottowa and Griswold colonies have fine tracts and comfortable improvements, with teams and utensils for farming. There has been less dissipation among them during the last year than formerly. The teachers and missionaries have taken renewed courage, and the increased farming operations, domestic comforts, and a more regular attendance of the children at school, are evidences of a change, which we hope will be maintained. Those in the valley of the Grand river have not the aid of a farmer; and, since the removal of the mission station from Grand Rapids, they have been quite neglected by the missionaries and teachers.

I am gratified to learn that a new effort has been made among them, and arrangements being made to secure them these advantages.

The Ottowas of Lake Michigan are making great efforts to secure themselves permanent homes, by purchasing lands along the rivers and bays of the lake; their position enables them, with moderate efforts, to live well; the land is very productive, the fishing

profitable, and the country still yields to the adventurous hunter a good return for his toil. Some of the bands express a desire to participate in the privileges of citizenship, and have presented a petition, asking that the subject should be brought to the notice of the State government. The great obstacle to their rapid improvement is found in their scattered positions, rendering the equal benefits of the mechanics, farmers, teachers, and missionaries impracticable.

Should the proper means be adopted for congregating them in communities, at favorable points towards the northern portion of the lower peninsula of Michigan, where the land is fertile, fisheries productive, climate healthy, and where for years they will be undisturbed by the approach of white settlements, it would facilitate their advancement and improve their condition, as all could then receive the benefits of the mechanics and others provided for their improvement and instruction.

Since my last report the Black river band of Ottowas (Old Wing colony) have determined to return north, and have purchased land along Lake Michigan, near Grand Traverse bay, well situated for the fisheries, and of productive soil, and a healthy location. They intend removing there next spring, having sold most of the land and improvements on the Black river, and commenced improving and clearing at their new location. They will be attended by the missionary who has labored among them since their settlement on Rlack river, and by the assistant farmer; and I have great confidence in the success of their undertaking. It will, at all events, remove them from the midst of a white settlement, where they are constantly exposed to temptation and vice.

The Chippewas within the Mackinaw agency, living upon the islands and main land north of Lake Michigan, have generally been engaged in fishing, which is found to be profitable, and yields them abundant means for support. With a few exceptions of those who abandon themselves to the vile use of whiskey, they are in a comfortable condition; many have made provision for the purchase of the lands occupied for their fields and camping sites, which are generally adjacent to fishing grounds and spots endeared to them by the tenderest associations of life.

Many of the Chippewas within the sub-agencies of St. Marie and La Pointe, have, within last year, purchased land, and express great desire to have permanent homes.

The schools have been better attended than heretofore; less drunkenness at times of payment, and a very perceptible improvement is manifested in their conduct and appearance.

No reports have been received at this office from either of the sub-agents, and it is presumed they have communicated direct to the Department, as they are aware of the desire to have early information from them.

A large amount of labor has been performed during the year by the farmers and mechanics, but so long as the Indians remain scattered, and in remote localities, the results of those instructing and laboring for their improvement will be comparatively small; an

if it is not the policy and intention of the government to provide for their removal west, it ought to take measures for congregating them at favorable points, where all could be benefitted by the means furnished for their improvement.

The missionaries and teachers have toiled assiduously, and their labors have this year been productive of good results. My absence, in compliance with the instructions of the Department to perform certain services within the La Point sub-agency, was prolonged; many difficulties had to be overcome, and much labor performed, the detailed particulars of which will be the subject of a special communication. It is believed that all has been favorably and satisfactorily arranged with the Indians, and that no further trouble will be had in that quarter.

For a detailed statement of the condition and progress of the schools and missions, I respectfully refer to the enclosed reports.

No. 1. Peter Paul Lefevre, bishop, report of school and missions.
No. 2. George N. Smith, missionary, do do
No. 3. Leonard Slater, do do
No. 4. Peter Dougherty, do do

With great respect, I am your obedient servant,

WM. A. RICHMOND,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. William Medill,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington city, D. C.

No. 17—A.

Detroit, *September* 30, 1848.

Dear Sir: I have the honor herewith to enclose to you my annual report of the Indian schools under my superintendency for the year ending September 30, 1848.

It is gratifying to me to have to report a growing desire on the part of the Indians in general for the education of their children, which evidently results in their religious, moral, and intellectual improvement. The proficiency of the scholars who have attended regularly has been as great as any previous year, and some have improved beyond all expectation. The progress, however, of those of Pokagon, Mackinac, and Point St. Ignace, is not so satisfactory on account of their irregular attendance and too many distracting avocations, which render it sometimes very unpleasant and discouraging to the teachers. The great majority of these children have natural capacities enough to learn any science, but the great difficulty is to train them up to steady habits and assiduity, for many of them are so irregular in attending, and find so many reasons for absenting themselves from school, that it is even difficult for the teachers to know the exact number of those who have attended their school in the course of the year.

The progress of the Ottowa Indians, of the Catholic mission of Arbre Croche and its dependent stations, has, in respect to civilization and religious education, indeed been flattering. In their general manners and moral conduct they are making continual advances. Their schools have also been better attended than the preceding year, except at Middletown, where the greater part of the scholars did not attend more than a part of the year on account of their parents moving their dwellings to a more suitable location, about a mile and a half from their village, on the lake shore.

The condition of this mission is steadily improving, and its congregations constantly increasing by many conversions from paganism. During this year we had the happiness of receiving into the church about three hundred pagans, who embraced the Catholic faith and subjected themselves to the sweet yoke of Christ.

The Indians of this mission live chiefly by fishing. They cultivate, however, each family, from one to four acres of ground; raise corn, potatoes, and other vegetables; make their own clothing—some after the fashion of the whites, and some approaching it. They build neat houses, particularly now, since, by the exertions of Rev. F. Pierz, they have the use of a saw-mill. They saw lumber, make shingles, and substantial frame buildings are going up in every direction.

With regard to our mission at Ance, Kewenon bay, among the Chippewa nation, I state with pleasure that the condition of the Indians, under the charge of Rev. F. Baraga, is continually improving. They are become entirely sober, and are all faithful members of the temperance society. They never suffer a drop of liquor to be brought into their village; and the fur trader who lives among them was obliged to bind himself by writing never to keep ardent spirits in his house or store, or else they would not suffer him in the village. When pagan Indians from the inland, or half-breeds, happen to carry whiskey through the village for their own use, they are sure to have their bottles and kegs broken to pieces if these Indians discover them. Many instances of that kind are known. They are also becoming more and more industrious, and they help each other as much as they can in their work. In winter they join together and chop wood for one house enough for eight or ten weeks. The following day they chop for another house, and so on for all the houses in the village. They also follow the same plan in spring, planting their potatoes, turnips, and other vegetables. They join all together, men and women, tilling and planting all day, and every day they finish three or four fields. This mission is increasing every year faster than was anticipated at the commencement. The number of the Catholic Chippewa families belonging to this mission is now forty-two. The missionary church is now too small to contain them all, although it was thought in the beginning to be rather large for the place. The school is also regularly attended by all the children

of the mission that are able to receive instructions, and the scholars have in general made very gratifying improvement.

I have the honor to be, with high regard and esteem, your obedient servant,

PETER P. LEFEVRE,
Bishop of Detroit.

Wm. A. Richmond, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian affairs.

No. 17—B.

Old Wing, *September* 4, 1848.

Dear Sir: As in former years I send you, in the following, my annual report. I taught school last winter, commencing soon after payment, and continuing till sugaring made it necessary for the scholars to leave. Our number was not as great as formerly, but more steady in attendance, and, consequently, the progress better; the course of instruction has been the same, except advanced. Number of males 9; number of females 6; whole number of Indian scholars 15; number of white scholars 7; whole number 22.

Our meetings on the Sabbath have been well attended, generally, and the truth listened to with interest, and I hope it is producing good effects—at least such appears to be the case—a decided revolution of views and feelings is evidently in progress on the subject of religion, but I am sorry to say, the cause of temperance has not advanced, the reason, however, is obvious—liquor has been abundant in our midst during the past year, and to the shame of American citizens be it said, there are those who will condescend to make an Indian drunk for the sake of a little paltry gain; it would not be difficult to keep this band of Indians a sober and industrious people but for such men, and it is strange that in our highly prosperous land they cannot find an honest employment by which to get a living.

But the absorbing question of the past year has been the moving of the mission, and after much anxiety and mature deliberation, and with the advice of the superintendent, it has been decided to move it, and it has only been with the view that a greater field of labor would be opened, and, consequently, more good result to the Indians, that we have made this decision.

Various causes have combined to make the Indians dissatisfied with their location here and prefer a location farther north, and in making this change several other bands have agreed to settle with us, and I have reason to hope and expect that all the Indians, or nearly all on this coast of the lake, will eventually concentrate at the same point—this we suppose to be an object of great importance, as many of them are so situated as to have no fixed home and are surrounded by the very worst influences, which render them miserable in the extreme, and by this course it is hoped that a great amount of wretchedness will be prevented and life saved.

Many of the Indians themselves appear to be fully aware of these things, and to realize that they must do something to better their condition or perish—with this view I started, in May last, in company with most of our band on a coasting tour to the north to examine the country—several other chiefs with a considerable number of their principal men joined us—we coasted as far as Grand Traverse bay, and after sufficient examination, unanimously agreed to settle on the lake shore in township 32, north of range 11 west—the land is a superior quality of timbered land, having, also, on its shore, an excellent trout and white fishery. After our return from the north, having had a fatiguing journey of about five weeks, I went with our chief, Peter Wakajoo, who is actively and wisely engaged in promoting the object, and a part of his band, to Ionia, and on the first of July purchased about two miles on the shore and several lots lying back. The other bands are to purchase after receiving their annuities this fall. Our band is now there preparing fields, so as to plant next season—they are to return soon to spend the winter, and we now expect to make our final move next spring. I am arranging, as opportunity offers, the sale of their lands here, a part of which have been sold for three to eight dollars per acre; thus they will obtain means to purchase more land at our new location than they owned here—also to begin their improvements there—and if God, who orders all things in infinite wisdom, bless our undertaking and labors, we hope the benighted Indian, to whom we are under greater obligation as a nation than to all others, will be greatly benefitted.

Your humble and obedient servant,

GEORGE A. SMITH.

Wm. A. Richmond, Esq.

No. 17—C.

Grand Traverse,
October 11, 1848.

Sir: In presenting my annual report, I would state briefly the state of the mission and the school at this place. A teacher, Mr. Andrew Porter, was secured, who took charge of the school in October last. The school has been kept in regular operation since, with the usual intermissions. There have been in attendance, during the year, forty-four Indian boys, twenty-six Indian girls, and ten white children. The average attendance of Indian children has been about thirty.

A few weeks since, a female school was organized, and Miss Isabella H. Morrison has been engaged to take charge of it for the winter. It is an experiment, but so far promises well. More female children, I think, will attend; those of more advanced age will come. Instruction in matters of domestic economy can be given, and all have a better opportunity to improve. Considerable sickness has prevailed during the year. Two of our most pro-

mising boys have died, and another lost an eye. They have been favored by a kind Providence with an abundant crop of corn and potatoes this season. The chiefs forwarded a petition last spring, asking for some horse carts, harness, and ploughs, in exchange for the services of the farmer. They have nothing by which they can make use of their horses, except one small wagon belonging to the assistant blacksmith, and an old cart belonging to the mission, which is kept in almost constant use. Several boxes of clothing have been received from the board of missions, and recently distributed. A commendable spirit of improvement is still manifested by most of the people.

Respectfully, yours,

P. DOUGHERTY.

Wm. A. Richmond,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 17—D.

Ottowa Colony,
October 1, 1848.

Sir: As education, in its primary and popular sense, is regarded of the first importance in Indian reform, I would submit the following report for the year ending this date. Winter term commenced on the return of the Indians from their fall and winter's hunt, which was in January. The school continued five weeks; after which time, they repaired to their sugar camp. The time allotted the children was improved, though they had a limited time for study.

Summer term.—The white and Indian children were united in this term; rising thirty scholars attended. The proficiency of the Indian pupils was flattering and encouraging to the teacher. It was a common remark that the Indian children surpassed the white children in decorum and studiousness. This term continued four months.

To elevate the condition of the adults, and to promote their intellectual powers, as a preparatory step, I have published the first rudiments of the new system for reading in their own vernacular tongue. I have distributed to the natives about one hundred elementary and reading books, which were earnestly solicited and attentively perused by those who could understand. Most of the families are furnished with copies of the sacred scriptures in their own language.

Arrangement is in progress to issue a monthly publication, which will contain, in the first number, the elements of the Ottowa, Chippewa, and Pottawatomie languages. The succeeding numbers will embrace the general news of the day, translations of the Scriptures, hymns, moral anecdotes, the lives of eminent persons of their own people and others, together with all useful and important matter which may have a tendency to awaken the affection of the soul

to the Master of Spirit. The reading will be of that character which will be approved by all evangelical denominations.

There is an actual reform in the habits of many in this colony. It was remarked by one yesterday, "Why, there are none who drink now of us, excepting two or three." They are more industrious and sober in their habits than formerly; they have enlarged their fields and commenced in earnest to raise wheat, with their other products. They raised one hundred and seventy bushels wheat, five hundred bushels corn, and three hundred bushels oats, the present season. They have broken up new land from twenty to thirty acres; they are now putting in thirty-five acres of wheat. Some of their dwellings are furnished with tables, chairs, regular bedsteads, and clocks.

Several individuals own light two-horse wagons; of which they make almost constant use in securing their products, going to mill, and, on the Lord's day, to attend divine worship.

It has been a pleasure to me the past season to conduct worship in their language. Their good attendance and apparent interest rendered my preparatory studies, and the promulgation of the gospel, pleasant and satisfactory.

With high respect, I remain your obedient servant,

L. SLATER,
Superintendent Ottowa colony.

Wm. A. Richmond, Esq.,
Indian Agent, Detroit.

No. 17—E.

Grand Rapids, *November* 1, 1848.

Sir: In presenting you with another annual report of the state of the colony of Ottowa Indians, subject to my supervision, I would remark, that I have nothing material to communicate different from the statement I had the honor to forward you for the preceding year.

The number of Indians, at present connected with the Griswold mission, is about one hundred and thirty-four. Eight have died; several have been baptized by the resident teacher and missionary, the Rev. James Selking, who very effectually continues to labor among them; several have been confirmed by the Right Rev. Samuel A. McCoskey, D. D., who annually visits them; and there is good reason to believe many of them are well imbued with the true spirit of the Christian religion. The progress of intemperance has been much checked, and we hope the time is not far distant when its ravages will be seen no more among them.

They continue to improve in agriculture, and, consequently, those who pay attention to this pursuit find its benefits in an increase of the comforts of living.

The number of children that has attended school, during the past year, is about thirty, though eighteen is the highest number present at any one time.

In this department some change has been made. The assistant teacher, hitherto, has been a native; but, though he was well qualified for the office, still it was found difficult to induce the Indian children to pay proper attention to his instructions. We have now engaged a white man for this service, who also receives a few white children into the school. The plan, thus far, works well; the Indian children are much pleased in being thus associated with the former, have their emulation at times much excited, and have made better progress in learning than before we adopted the present mode. We trust we shall continue to derive benefit from it, and that some of the Indian children, at least, will thus be made to see the importance of acquiring a good if not thorough education.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. H. CUMMING,
Superintendent of the colony of Ottowa Indians, at the Griswold mission in the county of Allegan, State of Michigan.

Hon. W. Medill,
Superintendent, &c., &c.

No. 18.

Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan,
November 7, 1848.

Sir: I have the honor to report, in relation to the Indians of this sub-agency, that they manifest, especially those located at a distance from the Sault, a disposition to improve their condition. Aware that game is decreasing rapidly, they devote greater attention to fishing, in which some have been successful; not less than 1,200 barrels have been sold by those at and around the Sault.

The potatoes, though promising at first, are in several places affected with the rot.

In the latter part of November last, there were a few cases of small pox at this place, of white persons. The Indians at Goulay's bay, on the Canadian side, had many cases of it; two from the Sault fell victims. Immediate steps were taken to vaccinate all that required vaccination. No case of small pox occurred amongst the Indians living within this sub-agency. Cases of erysipelas are now at the Sault; those of the Indians are of a mild type, and yield readily to medical treatment. Agricultural and other articles from the blacksmiths' shops have been issued to a greater amount than heretofore.

At Taquomenon and Neomekong they have been furnished with doors and window sashes for six houses, which will be occupied the approaching winter, and four others put up and covered.

With respect to the Ance Indians, I am glad to state that they are in a promising way of advancement.

It is reported to me that they have raised, and have of potatoes,

3,000 bushels; turnips, 500 bushels; amount of furs sold, $2,500; barrels of fish taken, 500; maple sugar made, 1,400 pounds; 37 head of cattle; number of dwelling houses, 60; boats, 10; canoes, 40; white fish and trout gill nets, 250. The number of Indians at the Ance, 257.

Of the schools, the efforts made by the missionaries to get scholars, and impart to them proper instruction, are constant. The schools of the Sault and Little Rapids are not on the increase. At the examination of Rev. A. Bingham's school, (whose report is herewith, marked A,*) in September, the Indian children were examined in reading, spelling, mental arithmetic and geography, in which they showed proficiency.

Of the advancement of the school at the Little Rapids, I have to refer you to the report of Rev. Wm. H. Brockway, marked B. From the Ance no other report has been received. The foregoing with the accompanying papers are respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JAMES ORD.

To Wm. A. Richmond, Esq.,
Acting Supt. Indian Affairs, Detroit, Mich.

No. 18—A.

Mission House, Sault Ste. Marie,
August 31, 1848.

Sir: In presenting to you this twentieth annual report of our mission, we would gratefully acknowledge the goodness of God, who has mercifully preserved our lives, and continued to us the measure of health by which we have been enabled to pursue an uninterrupted course of labor during the year.

The persons employed in the several departments of labor in this mission during the year are myself, Mrs. Bingham, Rev. James D. Cameron, Shyud, a native assistant, and Miss Adaline Culver, assistant school teacher.

A small boarding school has been regularly continued through the year. Since the last annual report, one mixed blood boy has been dismissed, and two orphan Indian boys, and one Indian girl, who is also destitute of parents, have been received.

Our present number of boarding scholars is seven—two boys and five girls. They are instructed in all the branches of labor, suited to their age, and capacity, that comes within the range of the mission. We have had a good school taught through the year, with a vacation of one week at the close of each quarter.

The number of pupils enrolled on the catalogue for the several quarters varies from 27 to 67. The catalogue for the first quarter, ending September 24, 1847, contained 35—males 20, females 15.

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* Omitted to be sent.

For the second quarter it contained but 27—males 16, females 11. For the third quarter it contained 56—males 34, females 22. And for the fourth quarter, ending June 23, 1848, it contained 67—males 41, females 26.

Reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, English grammar, history, and philosophy have been taught in the school in the course of the year; and, we may add, some attention has been given to vocal music. In the various branches to which the pupils have attended, a considerable progress has been made.

We have a pleasant Sabbath school of about 30 scholars connected with our mission at home, and when I visit the Indians at their different locations, I generally collect the youths and children in a Sabbath school and instruct them there. And when they visit the place, I draw them into the school when practicable. Our home school is composed of Indian, mixed blood, and white children, taught according to their different capacities to receive instruction.

Singing of hymns and spiritual songs forms a part of our Sabbath school services, as well as family devotions, and in this our beneficiaries bear an interesting part. The greater portion of them also take an active part in reading the Scriptures at our family devotions.

On account of the small number of Indians remaining at our place who are connected with our mission, a part of our religious services on the Sabbath have been devoted to the white population for the past year, when I have been at home. But I have spent a portion of my time in travelling among them, at those seasons of the year when travelling is practicable, and not only teach them publicly, but also from house to house, or from lodge to lodge. We have a small church of about 30 members, besides a number who live on the Canada side of Lake Superior, most of whom appear decidedly to regulate their lives by the rules of the gospel, and evidently seem to enjoy the consolations of the gospel. Some defections have been found among them, as in Christian churches among the white people; but, probably, not more frequent than is common among them. The Sabbath is as strictly kept by them as by Christian congregations in the States. In their religious meetings they sing hymns translated into their own language, and pray understandingly and with a becoming spirit of devotion.

We have also a Bible class, which has been kept up most of the time for some years, which has generally been interesting, and well attended during the winter season; but not so much so in the summer, as the people of our place are too deeply immersed in their temporal concerns to give their attention to it. Yet a few have punctually attended through the summer.

Our Indians continue to make gradual advances in civilization; or, at least, they become more habituated to, and confirmed in, those civilized habits already adopted. Most of our young men are forming habits of industry and usefulness, devoting a portion of their time to the cultivation of the soil; another and a larger portion of it to the fishing business, and another portion, not suit-

able for either of those, to their former business, the chase. I understand that some of them, at least, contemplate purchasing land, and becoming citizens of the United States.

Several of them who are engaged in fishing, have, for two or three years past, done the best at the business of any men in these parts; and it is not an easy matter to find more industrious and persevering men among any people than they are. They have caught, and brought to market at this place, more than 200 barrels of fish within the past year.

May God graciously give to the Department, and all who are engaged in labors for the promotion of their temporal or spiritual benefit, a lively interest in their welfare, and that wisdom necessary to direct them to the adoption of the best measures to accomplish it.

With sincere respect and esteem, I remain your obedient servant,

A. BINGHAM,
Sup't. Baptist mission.

To JAMES ORD, Esq.,
Sub agent Indian Affairs.

No. 18—B.

SIR: As we are now in the last week of the present conference year, I avail myself of this opportunity to make you acquainted with the present condition of the missions in this district.

Sault Ste. Marie.—At this station I think there has been a gradual, but steady improvement in the condition of the people from my first acquaintance with them to the present time. In comparison with the untutored bands of the interior, they are already a civilized and Christianized people. The religious meetings have generally been well attended, and nearly all the members have held fast their Christian profession. The school also has been well attended, the whole number on the list having been 42, many of whom have made very commendable progress in the different branches usually taught in the common schools among the white population. There are eleven head of cattle belonging to the mission, besides sixteen head that belong to different individuals at the station. The crops of every description look unusually fair, and promise an abundant reward for the labor of cultivation.

Kewawenon.—At this station the condition of things in general is much the same as when I last wrote you. All that I have said of those connected with us at the Sault may be repeated with truth of those belonging to this station. For though much remains to be done, much has certainly been already accomplished in the great work of evangelization among them. The number in the week day school has been 23, and in the Sabbath school 42. There is a temperance society numbering 48 members. Most of them live

comfortably, and may be said to be doing well, temporally and morally.

Fon du Lac.—The Indians at this place are not so far advanced in civilization as those just mentioned; yet, since I first became acquainted with them they have made very perceptible improvement. Many of them now appear anxious to build themselves houses and make permanent improvement. They have listened with more attention than formerly to the preaching of the gospel, and a number have embraced the Christian religion. They have also manifested more concern for the instruction of their children, and the number in the school, I think, has been larger than any previous year. With patience and perseverance, we believe that good will continue to be accomplished.

Sandy Lake.—This is a remote inland station, and somewhat difficult of access. Some of the Indians still hold on to their old heathenism, but others have renounced the same as no longer worthy of their belief. There have been some omens for good even here, and the work, we believe, will be sure in its accomplishment though it may be slow in its progress. We doubt not that God has designs of mercy towards them, and that these bands will yet become a civilized and Christianized people. The school has been regularly taught whenever the children could be got in, which at times it is not easy to do, as the people at some seasons of the year have frequently to change places the better to obtain a subsistence. As the people become more settled in their habits, this auxiliary will doubtless become more and more useful in them.

I am, sir, respectfully yours,

W. H. BROCKWAY,
Superintendent of Missions.

JAMES ORD, Esq.,
Indian Agent, *Sault Ste. Marie*, *Michigan.*

No. 19.

LA POINTE SUB-AGENCY,
October 16, 1848.

SIR: In making this, my first annual report, allow me to say that, owing to the shortness of the time during which I have had charge of this sub-agency, I have been unable to obtain all the information necessary for a detailed account of the condition of the Indians, and their interests embraced within its limits. So far as I have been able to observe, they are, at least in the more favored locations, making advances in those arts, customs, and habits of living which are calculated to add to their happiness. Nothing more forcibly demonstrates the great advantage they derive from

the missionary efforts, and schools among them, than to observe them as they assemble for payment from their various places of abode, and to note the contrast between those who are thus favored and those who come, perhaps, from the neighborhood of the whiskey seller.

The payment which closed on the 7th instant had excited much interest, especially with the Indians, and induced them to assemble at an early day; and, as the payment was late, the disagreeable necessity of having them here a long time was unavoidable. The Indians cannot be made to comprehend why one year the payment should be early, and another year late, and make many complaints against government on account of it. It would certainly be very desirable, if such a thing could be practicable, that government should fix a time for these payments.

It has been particularly gratifying that so little intoxicating liquor found its way to the Indians at this payment. It is computed by residents here that not one-fourth part the quantity has been sold to them at this as at previous payments. This result may be attributed to the determined efforts of the officers of this sub-agency, aided by the respectable citizens and traders. Liquor was found secreted in barrels of corn, buried on the beach and in other secret places, and destroyed. I have not known or heard of any drunken broils, or of any disturbances of any kind, during or since the payment. I had supposed the presence of a detachment of troops absolutely necessary, but I am now satisfied that their services can well be dispensed with.

I have received reports from the carpenter and blacksmiths, but they contain nothing particularly interesting. The desire to have comfortable houses built is increasing, and several have been built, and more are in progress at Bald river and at La Pointe. The blacksmiths annually use up all the iron and steel furnished them in making such articles as the Indians need.

I have received no reports from the farmers. I am satisfied that, as a general rule, Indian farmers do not render the Indians the service which they ought for the compensation they receive. It may justly be considered the most important office among them, and one most directly calculated to benefit them. Every effort should be made, by precept and example, to induce Indians to cultivate the soil. It not only affords them the means of comfortable subsistence, but is the first and most important step towards civilization. Where we find an Indian cultivating land, we almost invariably find one making rapid strides towards civilization. The office of Indian farmer, therefore, instead of being a mere sinecure, as is too often the case, ought to be one of toil and industry. The compensation demands it; justice to the Indians demands it.

Enclosed, marked No. 1, is the report of Rev. Sherman Hall, superintendent of the schools, under the direction of American board of commissioners of foreign missions. From the schools at Fon du Lac and Sandy Lake I have received no reports. Mr. Day, who, for some years has had charge of the school at Fon du Lac, is about

leaving for Eagle river, and his place is to be supplied by Mr. Holt, who will continue the school.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN S. LIVERMORE,
Indian Sub-agent.

Hon. W. Medill,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 19—A.

La Pointe, *October* 16, 1848.

Sir: I have just received your request to forward to you a report of the schools at this place and Bad river, under the direction of the American Board of C. F. M.

At this place, two schools were kept during the year ending with the first of June last, at which time I rendered a report to the Department, through Mr. Richmond. Accompanying that report was a list of the scholars, and a schedule exhibiting the branches of study to which each one attended. Our schools, during the period referred to, were kept in different parts of the village—one under the instruction of Mr. E. F. Ely, and the other under the instruction of Miss A. Spooner. At the former, 55 different scholars were enrolled during the year. The average daily attendance was 19. The whole number enrolled on the records of the latter school was 46, and the average daily attendance was 18. About the middle of July, Miss Spooner left this mission on a visit to her friends in the eastern States, and has not returned. Since that time there has been but one school kept in connexion with this station. The average daily attendance now is 18 or 20.

At Bad river there was a school kept, under the direction of Rev. L. H. Wheeler, during the year ending with May last, about five and a half months. This was all the time there were Indians residing there who were disposed to send their children to school. A school was maintained there during the last summer, until the Indians left their gardens and removed to the lake and to this place. The school was then discontinued for want of scholars. The Indians have been detained here for their annual payment longer than usual. On this account they are now but just returned to Bad river. The school there has probably re-opened. More than 50 different scholars attended the school there last year, though the average attendance did not exceed ten a day.

We regret to see so little interest taken by these Indians in the subject of education. Most of them attach little or no importance to having their children instructed. I have been informed that many of the head men have expressed a desire to have their school money divided among them, as their other annuities are, that they might expend it in the same way. We have had as many teachers employed as it required to instruct all those who were disposed to

avail themselves of instruction. There are few families belonging to the bands here and at Bad river, who could not, if they chose, keep their children in school during a large portion of the year. The American board, I have no doubt, would be willing to furnish a sufficient number of competent teachers to instruct every child in these bands the year round, if the Indians themselves were disposed to avail themselves of the advantages of instruction when placed within their reach.

In some respects these Indians are improving. Many of them are adopting partial habits of civilization. This is more and more apparent every year in the mode of dress, in their efforts to procure houses to live in, and in their enlarging their gardens and small fields. Many are much more industrious than formerly, and are much less disposed to depend on the same precarious modes of obtaining the means of subsistence, which almost universally prevailed among them formerly. These changes are most apparent among the younger portion of them. If the right kind of influences are brought to bear upon them, and they can be shielded from the degrading and destroying evils of intoxicating drink, I do not see why they may not eventually become a civilized and happy people. This, however, must be the work of time, and will require much perseverance on the part of those who are disposed to live among them for the purpose of teaching them letters, the arts, and the Christian religion.

I am, sir, very respectfully, yours,

SHERMAN HALL.

J. S. Livermore, Esq.,
Sub-agent at La Pointe.

No. 20.

Office Sub-Indian-Agency,
Green Bay, *September* 28, 1848.

Sir: In submitting my annual report for the current year, no material changes are to be noted among the tribes, since my last; in fact, that report may be referred to for the general condition of the Indians for this year.

The *Oneidas*, as heretofore, continue to advance in civilization and general improvement. But a few years more will be required effectually to settle their character as a civilized people. They all live by agriculture, and their little farms, stock and implements, would compare favorably with those of our own citizens generally, in a new country.

Their two schools are continued as heretofore; the one in English, the other in Oneida, though the latter is soon to be conducted in English.

The mission among the *First Christian party*, is now under the superintendence of the *Rev. F. R. Haff*, of the Protestant Episcopal church, whose report is herewith submitted. That of the *Or-*

chard party is under the superintendence of the Rev. Seth W. Ford, of the Methodist Episcopal church; his report is also enclosed. This tribe has a large and very valuable reservation, about three miles from the town of Green Bay, of which they occupy but a small part. Under the guidance of their two excellent missionaries, they are fast progressing to a state of independence; but one drawback is to be mentioned: too many of them still resort to this town for purposes of *intemperance*.

The Stockbridges remain much as heretofore. They are *farmers*, and belong to the pale of civilization and Christianity. They have nearly laid aside both their Indian costume and language. For the most part, they are temperate and industrious. The difficulties about citizenship, under the acts of 1843, and 1846, remain unadjusted, though the parties are, for the present, quiet, awaiting some action by the government. The recommendation of the Department, made last year to Congress, that they be invited to cede their rights, is still to be adhered to as the only practicable mode of adjusting those difficulties.

Their schools, under the general superintendence of the Rev. Cutting Marsh, are continued, and are highly useful.

The *Brothertowns*, as observed in my last annual report, are citizens of the United States, (by an act of Congress,) and compare advantageously with almost any other class; the only charge this sub-agency exercises over them, is the application for their benefit of a share of the "educational fund." Two excellent common English schools are kept open a great part of the year; they are well attended, and highly prized by this people.

The *Menomonies* are the most numerous and the most interesting tribe in this sub-agency. They are just beginning to change slowly, but surely, from the savage to the civilized state. Until within the last few years, but very few of them made any attempts to draw their sustenance from the soil. Now *one hundred and four families* (vide Rev. Mr. Bonduel's report) are living at Lake Pah-way-he-kume, including some five hundred souls, all of whom derive their support mainly from agriculture. Of these, fifty-seven families live in good substantial log-houses of their own construction. They have under cultivation 200 acres of land, well cleared and fenced. They have, according to the report of their missionary, raised the past season, six thousand bushels of corn, five hundred bushels of potatoes, one hundred and twenty-five bushels of oats, (by one man,) collected one thousand bushels of rice, and made thirty thousand pounds of sugar. When it is considered that this is but an infant settlement, having been commenced five years ago by wild Indians, with no resources but their hands, and but slight aid from the government, it may be adduced as evidence of a fixed purpose on their part to make full proof of the advantages of farming over the chase for support.

Succeeding as they have thus far, their example is fast having its influence on other portions of the tribe. The last season, the brother of the principal chief, Oshkosh, who is named *Osh ke ten-niew*, joined the farming band and professed Christianity; from his

influence, he is regarded as an important accession from the pagan ranks. Besides this brother of the head chief, a very influential chief has also lately joined the farming band.

All these advances by the Menomonies in civilization and Christianity have been greatly stimulated and confirmed by the faithful Christian labors of the Rev. F. J. Bonduel, of the Roman Catholic church, and the superintendent of their mission and schools. This gentleman continues his school for boys, and I cannot speak too highly of its importance in forming the character of the Indian youth which attend it. It is conducted entirely in English; and I have full confidence that, if not disturbed, it will in a few years be the means of enabling many of these sons of the forest to read, write and speak the English language with ease and correctness.

The school for *girls*, under the charge of Mrs. Rosalie Dousman, is also continued, and equally deserving of commendation. Herewith is respectfully submitted one of the monthly *registers* of each of these schools, to wit—for the month of August. They are presented as specimens of those furnished me every month. From them it will be perceived that 24 of each sex attend pretty regularly on the schools.

There is also herewith enclosed the general annual report of the Rev. Mr. Bonduel, together with other accompanying interesting papers, from which it appears that, beside the 48 children which attend regularly on the schools, there have been within his mission the current year, 51 baptisms, 29 converts to Christianity, 11 deaths, and 10 marriages; and that 109 members have been added to a temperance society, which now numbers 129 members.

In encouragement of the efforts of these simple-hearted natives, to emulate the character of the whites as farmers and Christians, every aid possible has been given them by this sub-agency, especially in the fulfilment of the treaty stipulation which furnishes them with stock cattle and farming utensils; and their appreciation of this little fund is shown in their anxiety for shares in its distribution, and the good use they make of the utensils and cattle.

The two blacksmiths in this sub-agency labor exclusively for the Menomonies; they are sober, faithful and industrious men, and give eminent satisfaction to the Indians.

The necessity of a treaty with the Menomonies for a cession of at least a part of the lands they occupy, becomes every day more and more pressing. The settlements of our citizens have now come up to the boundaries, which brings the two races in contact, and from which arise mutual complaints. It is nearly impossible to prevent the citizens from encroaching on the Indian land, and the Indians are constantly prowling over the ceded land. This state of things is greatly aggravated by the heavy and rapidly increasing trade to the lumbering country, on the upper Wisconsin river, which can only be approached by going directly through the Menomonie country, on the east side of the Wisconsin river; it cannot long continue, it is feared, without serious collision.

It must be conceded that very serious obstacles lie in the way of

treating with this tribe, while the United States Senate adhere to its resolution not to allow traders' claims. Nevertheless, an effort is respectfully recommended, and which, if made, I have great hopes may be successful.

In my last annual report, the attention of the Department was called to the fact that large bands of the *Ottowas* and *Pottawatomies*, as also of the *Winnebagoes*, were in this part of Wisconsin, leading a predatory kind of life in the neighborhood of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers—sometimes encamping on the ceded lands, and at others on the Menomonie lands. This evil has been greatly complained of the past summer, both by our citizens and by the Menomonies, and appears to be on the increase. They are troublesome, quarrelsome, both to the whites and the Menomonies, and their removal is recommended at the earliest possible moment.

I am, honored sir, very respectfully your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS,
United States Sub-Indian agent.

Hon. William Medill,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 20—A.

Lake Powahegan,
September 1, 1848.

Dear Sir: The report for this month not only exhibits the flourishing condition of our schools, both male and female, but also the rapid progress of our Christian Indians of Lake Powahegan towards civilization, notwithstanding the many obstacles thrown before them to create discouragement. Although the pupils of both schools as yet do not speak the language, which they continue to study with a good deal of zeal and perseverance; still, they are already able to appreciate the many advantages which they will gather from its knowledge in the course of a few years.

There is a tone and an appearance of happiness in this settlement at present which speaks volumes for the better condition of the son of the forest in future. Almost every family has got a fine field of corn and a good deal of vegetables for the winter. Nearly the two-thirds of the Christian families of this settlement live in log houses built by themselves. Pierre Lamotte, a chief, Pierre McRortibiensi, Joseph Langlois, and Jean Baptiste Akenibawi, another chief, have got, each of them, as good and as comfortable a house as any of our American farmers.

Their attention to Christian instruction, the generous effort that they have made out of their own accord to embrace and follow a sober and an industrious life, gives me confidence that their moral influence will be advantageously felt by our neighbor Indians, who as yet have not opened their eyes to the benignant light of religion.

A change for the better in their domestic condition has created

a taste for neatness, which is also striking in their dress, especially when they go to church. In ten years hence, the dross of their past life, moral and domestic, shall have been consumed by the fire of Christian charity, or disappear by the electricity of an active life. They will present the consoling spectacle of a new people, when compared with the miserable condition they lived but a few years ago. Their friends shall not regret their having tendered a helping hand to religion to rescue them from the grasp of vice and paganism; and, should their enemies grow in malice, triumph over humanity, and blast away all our hopes, even then, at least, we shall enjoy the sweet testimony of our conscience that we have done our duty.

With much regard and sincere affection, I have the honor to remain, honorable and dear sir, your most obedient servant in Christ,

F. J. BONDUEL,
Superintendent.

Hon. A. G. Ellis,
Sub-Indian agent at Green Bay.

No. 20—B.

Report of the school for the "Orchard party" of the Oneida Indians at Duck Creek near Green Bay, Wisconsin, August 8th, 1848.

Dear Sir: In conformity with your instructions I hasten to make my report for the current year. As I have, however, been at this station only about nine months, I can of course report for only that length of time. This school being under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal church, I have kept it eight months in one of the rooms of the *mission house*, our school house being too much decayed to be made comfortable. Some of the children have made good proficiency in their studies, which have been conducted entirely in the English language. Many of them can read intelligibly in the New Testament and other books, and have made some advancement in learning to write. Their knowledge of penmanship and figures has already in many instances been practically beneficial to themselves and their parents. Their number and ages are as follows:—Over 12 years of age, 11; over 10 and under 12 years, 7; over 7 and under 10 years, 13; total 31. Some of these have attended all, and others only a part of the time.

This mission numbers ninety-one members, who are punctual in their attendance at church on the Sabbath, and in their daily walk give evidence of established moral and religious principles. The Oneida Indians have almost entirely abandoned the chase for a livelihood, and confine themselves exclusively to the occupations and pursuits of civilized life.

I believe, sir, that your instructions to teach these children exclusively in the English language will prove a lasting benefit to

them, as they can then have access to innumerable books in our language, when, on the other hand, there is little besides the New Testament, prayer book, and hymn book translated into theirs.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

SETH W. FORD.

Miss. for the Methodist E. Church, Wis. Con.

To honorable ALBERT G. ELLIS,
U. S. Sub Indian agent.

No. 20—C.

ONEIDA MISSION, DUCK CREEK, WISCONSIN,
August 30, 1848.

SIR: The superintendence of this mission was assumed by me on the first of April last, since which time the school has been conducted as it was under my predecessor, with the exception of a few weeks, when it was closed on account of the prevalence of small pox among the tribe.

As yet the Indian language only has been taught, but after the opening of the next quarter, which will take place in a few days, the school will be conducted in English. The number of scholars during the summer has been about twenty. During the winter the number is more than double. Their progress has been highly satisfactory to their teachers.

The mission, with which the school is connected, still remains under the patronage of the domestic committee of the board of missions of the Protestant Episcopal church.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

F. R. HAFF.

A. G. ELLIS, *U. S. Sub-Indian agent.*

No. 21.

OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK AGENCY,
Ellicottville, October 4, 1848.

SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor herewith to submit the annual report of the condition of the Indians within the limits of this sub-agency.

I have this year received no instructions from the Department to take a general census of the Indians within this State. I have therefore been compelled to rely upon such information as I could obtain by writing to the several reservations. The statistics have not, in every case, been as full and complete as I desired; but as the period has arrived when my report should be forwarded to the Department, I find it necessary to embody such facts as I have in

my possession, and furnish a more detailed report at some future period.

The number of Indians at present residing within this State, as near as I have been able to ascertain, is as follows:—

Buffalo Senecas	residing on	Cattaraugus	reservation	653
Cattaraugus do	do	do	do	529
Senecas	do	Allegany	do	810
do	do	Tonawanda	do	505
Oneidas	do	in Oneida county		173
Onondagas	do	Onondaga county		310
Other Indians	do	do		97
Tuscaroras	do	Niagara county		320
St. Regis	do	St. Lawrence county		270
Total				3,667

There are Indians residing on some of the above reservations which I have not enumerated, as I have no means of ascertaining their number or class.

The number of	acres improved land	on said reservations	14,000
do	meadow land	do	1,400
do	bushels wheat raised	do	11,520
do	do corn raised	do	35,490
do	do potatoes raised	do	12,000
do	do turnips raised	do	423
do	do oats raised	do	28,860
do	plough in use	do	400
do	horses	do	1,000
do	sheep	do	839
do	milch cows	do	850
The value of	horticultural produce		$20,831 00
do	land let at an average of $250 per acre		6,215 43
do	avails from the chase		600 00

The improvement of land and the raising of grain, stock, &c., is increasing, and the products of the farms will this year exceed any former period in the history of the New York Indians. The chase, on some of the reservations, is nearly abandoned, and a good system of agriculture is springing up in its place.

The schools are in a flourishing condition. Charitable and benevolent societies have done much, aided by the liberal appropriations made by the legislature of this State, towards the erection of buildings, &c., to extend the blessings of education and civilization. By the perseverance of the chiefs, and the stringent laws of our State, scenes of intemperance are growing less numerous.

Not having been able to visit all of the reservations in this State, since my appointment to the sub-agency, I therefore cannot speak from personal observation of their general condition; yet from the

information with which I have been furnished, I am satisfied the Indians of New York are progressing in civilization, and are comfortable and happy in comparison with former periods.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. SHANKLAND,
Sub-agent.

To Hon. WM. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 21—A.

Report of the state of the State school.

CATTARAUGUS RESERVATION,
September 4, 1848.

School commenced May 1, 1848. The average number of scholars in attendance is 19 *per diem.*

There are some 48 on my list. But there are some who are very irregular in their attendance; but they are improving as well in their studies as could be expected under irregularities.

I am, very respectfully, your servant,

C. T. CARRIER.

To N. T. STRONG, Esq.,
Attorney State school, Cattaraugus reservation.

P. S.—There are six white pupils who attend the school.

No. 21—B.

Report of the female boarding school on the Cattaraugus reservation, established and under the care of the Society of Friends.

9TH MONTH, 4TH, 1848.

Attended by from eighteen to twenty-five females, who are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography; and, during intermission of school, are instructed in the different branches of household business.

JOSEPH S. STRATTON,
ABIGAIL WALTON,
Superintendents.

No. 22—A.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL INDIAN AGENCY,
January 20, 1848.

SIR: Having this day arrived at Torry's trading-house from the prairies, I hasten to submit for your consideration the following report of my proceedings, observations, &c., since the 22d December, ultimo. Finding that the robbing parties of Indians reported had retired, I returned to the trading-house, at which place I arrived on the 30th December past. On the 1st January, Mo-pe-cho-ko-pie, one of the friendly Comanche chiefs, arrived near this post with six of the horses stolen from Captain Sutton's ranging company; but he was so much alarmed that he did not visit the trading-house, but left the horses at the nearest settlement, retiring in great haste to his camp, in consequence of which, I was unable to ascertain what party had committed the theft. I accordingly deemed it proper to proceed to the Comanche country, and adopt such measures as might prevent any further difficulty, and, if practicable, recover the balance of the horses. On my arrival in the country usually inhabited by that band, I found they had all gone high up in the prairies, and that it would be almost impossible, if not quite, for me to overtake them, not being prepared for a journey to so great a distance. I fell in with, on the prairies, several small bands of friendly Indians, principally Tonkahuas, who gave information relative to the movements of some other bands, and that the depredation was committed by the "Ten-a-wish," one of the "upper Comanches." As soon as the friendly chiefs heard of the robbery they proceeded to the country of the Ten-a-wish, and recovered all the stolen property that they found.

The six horses sent in were all that could travel in. The balance were in their camp ready to be given up. After arriving at the trading-house, I found that a party of "Delawares," who are in the employ of Torry & Co., had just arrived direct from the upper prairies, by whom I received the *talks* sent in by the friendly Comanche chiefs. They express a determination to keep their treaty, and to do all in their power to prevent the upper bands from molesting our settlements. They also sent a request that I should visit their country immediately, and receive the stolen property, and to hear the talks of the "upper bands," so as to convince the government that they were not to blame, or be held responsible for the acts of the Ten-a-wish; and express a willingness to assist me against those bands, should they commit any further acts of hostility; and gave me notice that a band of Ten-a-wish had started down for the purpose of attacking the "German settlements" on the "Llano" river. I immediately notified the troops stationed on this frontier, and have taken measures to have those exposed settlements also notified, and, if necessary, protected from the intended attacks.

I would respectfully call the attention of the Department to the fact that, in addition to the upper Comanche bands, there are now

assembled on the head waters of the Brazos river a very large number of Indians, consisting of the Ki-o-was, Yam-pa-se-cas, Muskeleros, &c. The avowed intention of the present assembling is to make preparation for a descent upon the northern provinces of Mexico, Chihuahua, and others, early in the spring. I am informed by the several friendly bands, who have been hunting in the prairies, and who have had intercourse with them, that they are councilling with the Comanches, proposing to unite and send several thousand warriors. I am unable to calculate the chances of an attack on our frontier settlements, all these hostile operations thus far being confined to waylaying the roads leading from San Antonio to the Rio Grande, with some slight skirmishing with our rangers in that section—thus far not having made an attack on our settlements. So long as I can preserve the friendship and confidence of these friendly bands of Comanches, I have no fear but, from the promptness with which they acted in the recovery of the stolen property, much is to be expected from their stability. In accordance with their request, although over three hundred miles west of this place, I shall proceed immediately to their camp, and hope to strengthen them in their friendly resolutions.

All the smaller bands are perfectly quiet and friendly, and I can detect nothing of a hostile or disaffected nature in their proceedings.

I would respectfully further call the attention of the Commissioner to the complaints, made by the Comanches, of the attacks on their "war parties" in Mexico, by our troops, by which a number of their warriors have been killed. They think it strange that we should endeavor to cultivate peace with them here, and attack them there when we are at war with that nation. They have not discussed this subject to any extent with me; but I am induced to call your attention to the subject; other friendly Indians having spoken of their dissatisfaction on that account, with the probability of its finally creating difficulties between us. The authorities of this State have ever shown a disposition to do all things necessary for the preservation of peace, and by maintaining the temporary boundary fixed upon, as well as by preventing surveying parties from penetrating into the Indian country, which has done much to reconcile them. The Indians have, with few exceptions, remained entirely above our settlements, and I hear of much more complaint from the numerous *whiskey venders* along our borders about the "dullness of trade," than from one good citizen of depredations by the Indians.

I also deem it proper to call the attention of the Commissioner to an article published in the Houston city papers, relative to a battle between the Delawares and Comanches. I am unable to learn anything about it from the Indians; a considerable party of Delawares are now at the trading-house direct from the Comanche country; they, however, give no intimation of a misunderstanding between these tribes or any other Indians on our borders. I have just been informed that a battle has recently been fought between a small detachment of Captain Gillett's company and ten Indians,

who were supposed to be Lipans, in which seven of the latter were killed, and three of the detachment, including one lieutenant, a report of which has no doubt been made ere this to the Department by Lieutenant Colonel Bell. I have been unable to obtain any information from the several friendly bands respecting that party.

I have the honor, very respectfully, to be your obedient servant,

ROBT. S. NEIGHBORS,
United States special Indian agent.

Colonel Wm. Medill,
Washington, D. C.

No. 22—B.

Office of the Texan Emigration and Land Company,
Stewardsville, Denton county, Texas, February 18, 1848.

Sir: I am about to proceed with a corps of surveyors, accompanied by a sufficient armed force, to run, measure and mark, and otherwise define and establish the southern and western boundaries of the grant made to W. S. Peters, et al., by the republic of Texas, commonly called "Peters' colony," now belonging to the Texas Emigration and Land Company, whose legally and properly authorized colonial agent I am, and whom, in this communication, I have the honor to represent. By commencing at an established corner of said grant, situated about 36 miles southeast by south from the town of Dallas, on the Trinity river, in Dallas county, of this State; to run thence due west one hundred and sixty four (164) miles, and there to establish the southwestern corner of said grant; thence to run due north to the southern bank of Red river, and there to establish the northwestern corner of said grant or colony.

Having been informed that you are the United States' agent for Indian affairs in Texas, and particularly for that part of the State through which I intend to run, and that it is likely you might conceive it to be your duty to interfere with any party I might send on this expedition, as intruding on, the rights of the Indians, and perhaps to stop or punish the persons sent out by me for the prosecution of the work, I have, in consequence of this, taken the liberty to send to you the following inquiries, which, as they are made solely for the purpose of avoiding any collision with the government authorities, I hope will be answered by you in a similar spirit of candor and good feeling.

Have you, either by law, or instructions from the proper authorities of the United States, or of the State of Texas, any authority of right to hinder any citizen of this State, or of the United States, from going into or prosecuting his lawful business in any part of the State of Texas, whether the country is occupied by Indians or not?

If you have, please inform me what is its nature, and how far it extends.

Should you have the authority, or conceive it to be your duty, to stop or otherwise interfere in any way with the party or parties of surveyors I shall send out for the purposes above mentioned, or to prevent or hinder the said company or their agents from surveying into sections all the country claimed by them and granted by the republic of Texas, or from settling emigrant families upon any part thereof, be pleased to inform me how far you will exercise that authority, and by what means you would enforce it, and to what extent force would be employed.

By a reference to the accompanying pamphlet, you will discover that the republic of Texas has, by the most solemn acts she was capable of performing, granted, for certain purposes, all the lands, or territory north and east of the lines heretofore mentioned to be run as boundaries, to the parties whom I represent. And you will readily perceive that we have an unquestionable right to survey and occupy the same; as well as that the State of Texas is bound, constructively, to put us in possession of all the lands included in said grant. Under this view of the case, and with our rights and privileges exhibited to you, will you be obliged to stop or hinder us in any way from defining our boundaries, or taking possession of, and settling all the territory thus granted?

And supposing that you should admit our right to survey and settle the said boundaries and territory, and give to us assurances that we shall not be stopped by you, or should you deem it necessary to conciliate the Indians through whose district we shall pass or remain in while engaged in said surveys and settling of families; will you in contemplation of such a state of things, render us any assistance, either of armed men as a protection, or by making, as a preparatory step, some amicable arrangements with the Indian tribes?

Your immediate answer, made positive and not to be mistaken, will greatly influence our conduct in this affair, as well as confer a great obligation on the undersigned.

Be pleased to accept the assurances of great respect, with which I have the honor to be, sir, your very obedient, humble servant,

HENRY O. HEDGCOXE,
Colonial agent of the Texas Emigration and Land Company.

Major NEIGHBORS.

No. 22—C.

Report of R. S. Neighbors, esq., special agent for Texas Indians, from 20th January to 2d March, 1848.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL INDIAN AGENCY,
Trading Post, No. 2, *March* 2, 1848.

SIR: Having just returned from the Indian country, I hasten to lay before the Department a report of my proceedings, observations, &c., since the 20th of January.

In my report of that date, I notified the Department that the Comanches had sent for me to visit their camp. In accordance with this request, I started for their camp on the 31st January, and arrived, on the 14th February, on the Salt Fork of the Brassos, about 350 miles NW. of this place, where I found camped the friendly band of Penetakees or Hois. I found that they had abandoned their usual hunting grounds, which are some 200 miles nearer the settlement than this point, and thought proper to follow them, in order to be able to report to the Department their intentions, and the cause of their unprecedented movements. The principal chief, Mo-po-cho-ko-pie, met me about fifteen miles from the camp and received me in the most friendly manner, expressing much gratification at my arrival, and giving me many assurances of the friendly dispositions of his band, and their wish to preserve peace with the whites. It being late, we did not arrive at the main camp, but the chief with a small party remained with us all night, for the purpose of conducting me to the camp and to afford protection against the party who had declared themselves hostile. Having arrived at camp, he gave me a full and complete history of the movements and disposition of the several prairie bands, which, for the information of the Department, I deem it proper to communicate at length. He informed me that "the depredations lately committed and charged to the Comanches, were committed by the Ten-a wish and Na-ko-nies, and a small portion of the lower bands or Pe-ne-ta-kees, over whom he could exercise no control. The first party that commenced depredating was a party of the Ten-a-wish and Na-ko-nies, who had been on a foray in Mexico. On their return they met with a party of Lipans, who had received information that the Comanches and whites were at war; on hearing this, the party concluded to steal some horses before returning to camp, and in consequence stole the horses from Captain Sutton's company."

On their arrival at the camp of the friendly band, the chiefs immediately took possession of the stolen property for the purpose of returning them to their owners. When the Ten-a-wish heard of this, they sent their warriors out to steal more, saying, "they would get tired of returning stolen horses." Several parties im-wanted to see how long before the old chiefs of the Pe-ne-ta-kees mediately started down and have stolen a number of horses, principally from the ranging company.

The second party was the one that stole horses from Captain Gillett's company. The rangers followed and overtook them—recovering their horses, killing two Indians, and wounding two. When the news reached camp, a brother of the Indians that were killed went down with a small party of warriors, and finding his brothers dead, killed, near San Antonio, a white man and his wife.

The chiefs of the Pe-ne-ta-kees have used every exertion to prevent further difficulty, and to return the stolen property, and have carried their measures so far that they found it would lead to war among themselves if persisted in, when they abandoned their attempts to preserve peace, and fled with great precipitance to the upper prairies, as they expected our troops to follow the parties

that had committed the depredations. He also informed me that the chiefs that had signed the treaty, and all the Comanches, (with the exception of the small parties that it was impossible to control,) were much disposed for peace, and were willing to do all in their power to recover the stolen property, but did not wish to be held responsible for the acts of the depredators.

On the morning of the 14th, I arrived at the main camp, which I found to consist of about 250 lodges of Camanches, 50 of Ton-ka-huas, and 10 of Wichetas. All the principal chiefs and councillors of the lower bands were present, being the first time that I have seen them all together during the year. I met with a friendly reception from all the chiefs, and was conducted by them to the lodge of the principal chief, who done every thing in his power to make me comfortable. In the evening the chiefs assembled for a smoke at the lodge of Mo po-cho-co-pie, where all matters appertaining to their affairs were freely discussed, as well as the subject of the depredations lately committed. All the chiefs present manifested the utmost friendship for the whites, and renewed their promises to "preserve peace themselves," and use all their influence to induce the other bands to do the same. I was informed by the chiefs in council, who fully sustained the statements made by the principal chief, that they had, soon after their arrival on the Brassos, met with and held a council with all the northern bands of Comanches, Kiowas, &c., who expressed themselves strongly in favor of peace, and expressed a wish to enter into treaty stipulations with the United States, and to be on the same footing as the lower bands; also that one of the Ten-a-wish chiefs, whose brother was killed by Captain Gillett's company, was there in the camp, and wished to kill me and the young man with me, (John McLemore,) advising us to keep on guard, and have our arms in good order, and advising us not to go much about the camp for fear that he might carry his threats into execution, if he found opportunity; that they had sent express for Pa-ha-yu-ca, and the chief of the Ten-a-wish and Na-ko-nie bands, as soon as they heard of my arrival, and expected them in the next day. On their arrival they wished to hold a council and try to end the hostility that existed on the part of those bands. I also learned that a large portion of the warriors had gone on an expedition against the Pawnee Mohaws, who had been stealing many horses from them.

On the evening of the 15th, Pa-ha-yu-ca, with five of the principal Ten-a-wish, one Na-ko-nie, and one Koo-chi-ta-ker chief arrived at the village. I was introduced to them separately by Pa-ha-yu-ca, and usual ceremonies gone through with. They appeared to be much gratified at the meeting, and the friendly chiefs used every exertion to make us friends. In a short time everything like reserve had disappeared, and the usual topics were discussed freely between us. At night Mo-po-cho-co-pie invited us to his lodge to a feast. I found, in addition to the chiefs lately arrived, a number of the principal men of the Hois assembled. Mo-po-cho-co-pie then said "that he had invited us to his lodge to eat together, and hoped that we would be friends for a long time; *he* had

eaten with the white people and smoked the tobacco of our great father, the President of the United States. He was not tired of peace. His heart was glad to see the Ten-a-wish and Na-ko-nies meet his white brother and smoke and eat together. He hoped we would be the same as the Hois chiefs, '*great friends*.'"

I found them to be a very jovial set, and the evening was spent in eating and smoking, and the discussion of the usual themes among the prairie bands, viz: "war and women," finding myself, in the end, upon a good understanding with them. On the morning of the 16th, the chiefs and principal men assembled in council. I stated to them the cause of my visit to their country, detailing the depredations lately committed by the Comanches on our citizens, and wishing to know the cause of their hostility. I was answered by every chief present that there was no general feeling of hostility existing; that the late occurrences were brought about by the many false rumors that were circulated in the Indian country, by the Creeks, Kickapoos, and other designing persons, and was confined to a small portion of Comanches, *beyond control*, and those bands who did not consider themselves in *treaty* with the United States.

Finding them disposed to be peaceable, I proposed that they should return all the stolen property, and refrain from committing depredations for the future; also, that the Ten-a-wish, Na-ko-nies, and Koo-che-ta-kees should come under the same agreement and treaty as the Hois, or Pen-e-ta-kees, and live in peace with the government and citizens of the United States; inviting them, at the same time, to attend our councils, and offering them all the benefits of the treaty, as made by the friendly bands, in behalf of the Comanche nation. They agreed, very readily, to my proposition, and pledged themselves, in behalf of their bands, to refrain from committing any act of hostility against the whites in future. I deem it proper to enclose, herewith, for your consideration, copies of the "talks" of the Ten-a-wish, Na-ko-nies, and Koo-chee-ta-kee chiefs, on the occasion.

I used every exertion to induce the chiefs to restore the stolen property, and notified them that they would be held by the government to a strict account, and be made to pay for each horse stolen; but found myself unable to effect that object, the chiefs assuring me that they were unable to exercise sufficient eontrol over those who had stolen them, for their recovery, but would still do their utmost to preserve peace, and induce those disposed to depredate to remain quiet, and if they could recover any of the stolen horses, they should be immediately returned. I am decidedly of the opinion that, had I a sufficient force to sustain the chiefs in their good intentions, I should have been able to settle all matters of difference in the manner prescribed by the treaty, without in the least interfering with or compromising the friendly relations that exist between them and the whites; and prompt action in that matter would do much to prevent such occurrences in future. I have heretofore called your attention to the little control exercised by the several chiefs over their bands,

and to the propriety of placing a sufficient force at the disposition of the agent to enforce the stipulations of the treaty. The chiefs proposed that we should say nothing more about the property stolen, and were anxious for a settlement of differences, without holding them responsible; to which I would by no means agree. Each chief appearing to act for himself, I could effect no concert of action by which I hoped to recover the stolen property.

Not having sufficient force or influence to enforce the stipulation of the treaty, I submit the matter to the consideration of the Department, for its action, and respectfully suggest that the whole band be held strictly accountable for the depredations committed, and that any divisions in the tribe, or band, by which a portion wish to preserve peace while the balance depredate, should be discountenanced. I am decidedly of the impression that, had there been no blood shed, I should have been able to settle matters satisfactorily. The death of the Comanches killed by Captain Gillett's company has already led to retaliation, by which a peaceable family has been murdered. As the Indians themselves have informed me, I therefore deem it proper that the matter should be settled under definite instructions from the Department.

Finding that I could do nothing in the premises, I agreed with the principal chiefs to submit the matter to the Commissioner for final action; at the same time giving them notice, if any Comanches were found near our settlements, except at the trading-house, until the matter was adjusted, they would be treated as *hostile*.

On the 18th I arrived at the camp of the Wacos and Tah-wac-car-ros. I found them perfectly friendly and peaceable, and could trace no act of hostility to them since my arrangement, as reported on the 22d June last. On the 22d, I arrived at the village of the Keechie, and found a considerable number of Indians assembled in the neighborhood, consisting of Caddoes, Ionies, Keechies, and Wacos. The principal body of these tribes had not returned from their winter hunt; but, from the friendly manifestations of those I saw, I was fully assured of their friendly and peaceful disposition. The only depredation that can be traced to these bands is a theft committed by three Keechies and one Wicheta, who stole twelve horses from our settlements. Immediately on the arrival of the thieves at camp, the horses were taken away by the chiefs, and eight of them were placed in my hands, to be returned to their owners, with a promise to return the balance as soon as the hunters returned; the four not recovered being with a party of the Keechies, who had not come in from their winter's hunt.

I find all the small bands perfectly manageable, and have no difficulty whatever with them. By the judicious arrangements made, and the great influence I am enabled to exercise over the principal chiefs, I can easily detect any party that may be disposed to depredate, or molest the property of our citizens. Since the commencement of my term of service, I have recovered, from the various bands, over seventy head of stolen animals, which have been returned to their owners, wherever they could be found.

At the council in September last, I made an arrangement with most of the smaller bands for them to settle contiguous to each other, for the purpose of planting corn this year, agreeing to assist them all in my power, and furnish them with seed to plant. They, in accordance with this agreement, are now assembling near the Keechie village, on the Brassos, which is about one hundred and fifty miles above Torrey's trading-house. The parties forming said settlement are the Wacos, Tahwaccarros, Keechies, Caddoes, and Ionies, with a few Cherokees and Delawares, who are associated with them. I would respectfully recommend that they be sustained and encouraged by the Department in their laudable undertaking, as they are now under good chiefs, and if properly attended to will give the Department but little trouble.

On the 27th I arrived at the camp of the Anadarkoes (Jose Maria's band.) I found that they had just returned from Torrey's trading-house, where they had spent several days, for the purpose of disposing of their peltries. Jose Maria was furnished, by my order, with corn to plant, while there. Although he appeared perfectly friendly, I found, by conversing with him, that he was in some perplexity, and uncertain what would be his movements. He spoke of the rapid extension of our settlements, and was afraid if he settled and attempted to make corn, that he would be driven off before he could gather the crop. I again assured him of the good intentions of the government of the United States, and advised him to remain in his village, as I felt assured that the government would do him justice, even if the *line* so often spoken of should be run above his village.

I find that great doubt exists in the minds of all principal Indian chiefs in regard to the final settlement of their land matters. They are suspicious of the promises made; and from the late movement of the troops on this frontier, and rapid extension of our settlements previous to any negotiation or agreement on the part of the several tribes, are under the impression that they are to be driven entirely out of the country, and deprived of their usual hunting grounds by *force.*

On the 1st instant I arrived at this place, having been absent in the Indian country thirty days, during which time I had communications with portions of every tribe in the limits of this agency except the Lipans, who are still on the Rio Grande, near the mouth of the Pinco, and occupy a doubtful position. During my travels with the several bands, I endeavored, as far as possible, to ascertain their disposition and feeling towards the whites, and used extra exertions myself, as well as through my interpreters, separately, to ascertain if any thing like a general feeling of hostility existed in any tribe, but was unable to detect anything of the kind in any band, (except as reported in regard to the Comanches.) On the contrary, I received on all occasions renewed assurances of the disposition on the part of the several bands to place themselves entirely under the control and at the disposition of the government of the United States, and all expressed a wish to cultivate friendly relations with our citizens.

I deem it proper to call the special attention of the Department to the many influences at present brought to bear upon the several wild bands in this special agency, calculated to interrupt our friendly intercourse, and create hostile feeling toward the whites. On my arrival at each camp, the first subject brought to my notice was the reports circulated by the small bands of Kickapoos and Muskogies, (Seminoles,) who for the last two months have been engaged in visiting the several prairie bands, representing themselves as emissaries of the Creeks, and inviting most of the small bands to join the Creeks and emigrate to their country.

The first intimation that I had of their operations was on my arrival at the Comanche camp, when the chief Mopochocopie informed me that a party of Kickapoos and Creeks had just left his village; that the several chiefs of the Comanches, on hearing of my approach, insisted on their remaining to see me, as it was important that their reports should be told me. They left, however, with much precipitance. They had told the Comanches that the whites were decidedly hostile, and were preparing to make a campaign in their country; also, that they had *lied* at every council held with them in regard to their lands, &c. Pa-ha-yu-ca, the Comanche chief, said: "I have heard all that these people (the Creeks) have to say; I do not know whether they have told the truth or not. They told me that the presents you gave my people was to pay us for our land; if I had believed that to be the case, I would not have taken those presents. I have not sold any of my land."

On my arrival at the camp of the Wacos, I found that they had been spreading the same reports, and had used every exertion to induce the Wacos to emigrate to the Creek nation. They told the chiefs that I was dead, and that the wild Indians had no friend in this part of the country; that the whites on this frontier would kill *all* the Indians, at the same time offering them much larger presents than they received at the late council, if they would join the Creeks. The same thing has been offered every band in the limits of this agency, as I am informed by the chiefs; the consequence is, that much confusion exists among the several bands: some had already agreed to remove previous to my arrival in the Indian country.

Those that had mostly given in to the measure were the Ton-kahuas and Keechies. I am informed that this measure is undertaken by the Seminole chiefs "Wild Cat" and "Alligator." What their object is in inducing these wild bands to emigrate to their country, or why they wish to assemble so large a force, I was unable to ascertain, but would respectfully call the attention of the Department to the fact. I have on a former occasion called the attention of the Department to the propriety of adopting such measures as would compel these bands to remain in their own country.

Notwithstanding the several bands have been notified of the many false reports of the Kickapoos, and all possible means tried to counteract their influence, they have, on the present occasion, created much confusion, and done *much* to weaken the confidence

of the wild tribes in the good intentions of the government. They have, on this occasion, had a better opportunity, by a combination of circumstances, to create dissension than on any former occasion. For the last few months our settlements have extended to grounds heretofore considered exclusively the privileged lands of the Indians, (I allude to the occupation of the late council ground, near Torrey's trading-house,) which has attracted the attention and special notice of every band that has visited the trading-house. The effect, in a manner, confirms the reports circulated by the Kickapoos and others, (who appear to be decidedly hostile to the citizens of this frontier,) "that the whites intend to deprive them of their lands by force."

I have heretofore called the attention of the Department to the fact that, by the laws of this State, the Indians are not acknowledged to have any right or claim to lands. Our citizens, acting under this privilege granted by these laws, are generally disposed to settle on the lands occupied by the Indians, regardless of the consequences, and, there being no power to control them, must necessarily and inevitably lead to serious difficulty, unless measures are immediately adopted to settle the questions involved. *A crisis has now arrived;* this matter cannot be postponed with safety much longer. I have deemed it my duty, under your instructions, to use all my influence to induce our citizens to remain quiet until the question involved, in regard to the land occupied by the Indians, and claimed by them as their hunting grounds, could be definitely settled by the action of the United States government, but find that the many opposite influences brought to bear on that subject have rendered my efforts ineffective, and I am unable to effect further delay on the part of our citizens. Up to the date of my return from the Indian country, I was decidedly of the opinion that the "temporary line" designated by Governor Henderson, and agreed to by the Indians at the council in September last, in the presence of Lieutenant Colonel Bell and others, and alluded to in the copy of a communication from Governor H., forwarded with my report of the 18th December, *would be* sustained, until some definite action in relation to our Indian matters. But, finding that the agreements then made are disregarded, I deem it proper to notify the Department that the Indian country in Texas is *now* open to all persons who may choose to visit or settle therein. This subject has been fully tested, in the last few months, by the case reported in my communication of the 18th December, when I notified the Department that a Mr. Spencer had located on the council ground of the Indians, and forwarded a copy of Governor Henderson's views in regard to the propriety of maintaining the temporary line, until the United States government could place our Indian matters on a firm and permanent basis. For near a month after his removal, I was absent in the western portion of this agency; on my return, in the early part of January, I found that Spencer, in connexion with a Mr. Moore, had returned to the place from which he was removed, and engaged in selling whiskey to Captain Johnston's ranging company, a portion of which had strongly espoused his cause. This

matter being susceptible of full proof, the subject was called to the notice of the commanding officer, Captain Johnston, with a request to have those persons removed from the Indian country; enclosing him, at the same time, a copy of Governor Henderson's views in regard to the maintenance of the "temporary line." I herewith enclose a copy of Captain Johnston's letter to Spencer on that occasion, which will more fully call the attention of the Commissioner to the *propriety* of permitting such men to settle in the Indian country.

Spencer received permission from Captain Johnston to remain until the matter could be further discussed; laid the subject before Governor Wood, (who had succeeded Gov. H.,) who would take no notice of the matter. He next applied to the legislature, petitioning for permission to become a citizen of this State, and to locate and settle any land he might think proper, in the limits of Texas. His petition was not granted.

On my arrival at this place, I was informed by Captain Ross, who is now in command, that Lieutenant Colonel Bell has given him orders not to interfere with or prevent any settlers from going above the trading-house; to remove the station about fifteen miles further up, and to encourage and protect those who wish to settle. The field that Spencer now cultivates has been cultivated by the Indians for the last four or five years. I have heretofore called the notice of the Commissioner to the necessity of establishing a complete co-operation between the agent and the military on this frontier. Not being conversant with the orders given the commanding officer of the frontier in regard to Indian matters, I deem it proper merely to call the attention of the Commissioner to the *influence* that the present movements are likely to exercise over our several border tribes.

On my late visit I could easily see, by the guarded manner of a number of the chiefs, and their questions relative to the movements and intentions of our military force, that the Indians were very apprehensive and afraid to approach our frontier. Mo-po-cho-co-pie, chief of the friendly Comanches, thus spoke on the subject: "You told me that the troops were placed there for *our* protection, as well as the whites; *that* I know is not so. You told me, also, that if I wished to go below the line, if I would go to the captains of the stations, they would give me permission to go down below to hunt. Soon after the council, I wanted to go below the station, on the Colorado, as I heard that there were some buffalo down in the lower prairies. I applied to Captain McCullough, with a party of eight old men and their women and children; he would not let me go down. I told him that I did not wish to go to the settlements; had no warriors with me; but merely wanted to hunt where there were no houses, and kill some meat for my women and children, as there were no buffalo near, above his station. He said he would not permit me, under *any* circumstances, to go down. This made me angry, and I quarrelled with him. I told him that I was an old man, and had hunted in these prairies before he was born, and before there was any white man for a long way below. I am now

going down, and will try again to go to my old hunting grounds. If I am again refused a *permission*, I have *done* trying. We have been at peace for a long time, and I do not see why you keep so many soldiers on the line, if you still wish to keep peace."

There is now eight companies of rangers on this frontier, which is more than was ever before stationed here, even when we were at war with all the tribes on our borders. They are stationed at intervals from the Rio Grande to Red river. During the last month, the lieutenant colonel commanding visited the several posts, and, while I was still in the Indian country, established several new ones. I am informed by the officers at this station, (Captain Ross and Lieutenant Hill,) that no Indian is to be permitted to pass below said line of posts, unless they have *passports!* I would respectfully ask the Commissioner, who is to grant these passports? The position of the troops, and the line they now propose to defend, is entirely above the settlements, being some thirty miles higher than they existed some three months since, and ten miles above Torrey's trading post, and the council grounds of the Indians; at which point, I have, heretofore, held my office for the transaction of the necessary business with the Indians.

I am also informed by these officers that the lieutenant colonel stated that, "if the Comanches committed any further depredations, he would send a force immediately into the Indian country," which proceeding would at once end our peaceful relations with them.

Believing it to be the intention of the Department to settle all difficulties between our citizens and the several Indian tribes in the manner prescribed by the treaty, I am unable to account for the present movements. If a small body of any band of Indians should steal a few horses, is it deemed of sufficient moment to commence hostilities? or should the matter be settled by negotiation, as provided for in the treaty? That some bands of the prairie tribes will depredate until they are induced to understand our institutions, by the usual mode practiced by the government, must be expected.

Up to the present moment, there has been no definite arrangement made with the wild Indians; no permanent means adopted by the government to protect them from the depredations of other persons, or to allow them the privilege of subsisting unmolested, by hunting on grounds that they occupied before Texas was populated by a more civilized race. I have only been in the settlements three days, after having visited, without any protection or military force whatever, all the bands that could be reached by our present force, and can see no necessity whatever for war with the Indians. This matter is entirely within the control of the government, and I feel fully assured and justified in stating to the Department that they have sufficient influence already to settle our Indian matters upon the terms that the government may think proper to propose, *without war*.

The position assumed by the troops on this frontier of course renders it impossible for me to exercise any influence or control whatever, either over the Indians or persons who may choose to

interfere in Indian matters. Nor do I deem it proper for me to attempt any further measures or negotiations with the Indians, without special instruction from the Commissioner.

Every avenue leading to our settlements is guarded by a body of troops. The Indians are cut off from the possibility of holding intercourse or cultivating friendly relations, with our citizens, even if they were so disposed; and I can readily assure the Department that the wild Indians will not, under any circumstances, place themselves in the reach of so large a body of troops, unless they are *fully* assured of their intentions: I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that the Department define their position, at as early a period as possible, and notify the several bands on our frontier what are the intentions of the government in regard to their affairs. At present I would not feel justified to guarantee good treatment to any Indian who wished to visit our settlements, from the feeling of hostility exhibited by a portion of our citizens.

I am instructed by the Department to report the several influences calculated to interrupt friendly relations with our Indians. I do not feel myself authorized to discuss the actions of the military, but deem it my imperative duty, in my present position, to call the attention of the Department to any movement of the military or our citizens that is calculated, in my opinion, to interfere with our present peaceful relations with the Indians.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. S. NEIGHBORS,
United States special Indian Agent.

To Colonel W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

No. 22—D.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL INDIAN AGENCY,
April 28, 1848.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, on my arrival in Austin, on the 10th instant, I received a talk from the Lipans, with a request that I would visit their camp, which was situated on the head waters of the Gaudaloupe river. Although my term of service had nearly expired, I deemed it my duty, under the circumstances, to comply with their request, as they had occupied a doubtful position for some months. On the 18th, I fell in with the principal chief, Chi-ki-to, about one hundred miles above Austin, and found that he had determined to visit this post for the purpose of seeing me, and to renew their obligations of peace with the whites.

I had much talk with them in regard to the cause of their long absence from our councils, and the doubtful position they had occupied. The chief informed me that, after the attack on them

by Captain Armstrong in August last, they had joined the Apaches on the Rio Puerco, and were afraid to approach our settlements until he had received the friendly talk sent to him and his people by me, through the friendly Indians visiting them. Finding them much disposed for peace, I deemed it proper to encourage them in their good intentions, and accompanied them to this place. They having shown every disposition to cultivate friendly relations with the government and citizens of the United States, I deemed it proper to give them a small present, as they had at no time been hostile, and had received no presents at the general distribution last fall. I found that, during my absence from this post, large parties of Camanches, Ionies, Caddoes, and Keechies, had visited the agency, some for the purpose of trade, others to give assurances of their friendly disposition. The Camanche chief Mo-po-cho-co-pie, brought in and delivered up a part of the horses stolen from the rangers last winter, and made many professions of friendship to the whites. He left information that large parties of the upper bands of Camanches, Kiowas, &c., had gone north for the purpose of waylaying and plundering on the Santa Fé road, and wished his band to be held blameless by the government for any of the acts of those bands. He states that, if the government was disposed to send troops into the Indian country, he is willing to remain at any place that I should designate, with his people, until the war was over. All the upper bands, without distinction, have gone north with the above intentions.

I can perceive no material change in any of our border bands since the date of my last report, except such as must naturally grow out of the late attacks on the Indians by our troops. As I anticipated, when calling your attention to the massacre of the Indians by Captain Highsmith's company, on the 10th instant, those Indians have already commenced a system of retaliation, by killing three surveyors on the Trinity river, and it is impossible to say how long before we can again stop the effusion of blood on this frontier.

During my absence from this post, at my request, (as I expected many Indians to visit it,) Mr. C. E. Barnard assisted the interpreter, Jim Shaw, in holding talks with the Indians. I herewith transmit, for your information, such intelligence as was left for me by said tribes during my absence.

In closing the affairs of this special term of service, I deem it proper to call the attention of the Commissioner to the many evils and misunderstandings likely to arise from the discontinuance, for any length of time, of the friendly intercourse now existing, and established for the last year, with our several border tribes. Up to the present time I have deemed it my duty to continue the exercise of my former duties, and answer all the calls made on me by the Indians, especially those likely to grow out of unfortunate attacks of our troops, and have given the Indians the best advice I could in regard to the matter, but do not feel authorized to make any definite agreements with them.

I should deem it improper for me at this time to make any fur-

ther suggestions in regard to Indian affairs, as I have heretofore endeavored to keep the Department fully notified of passing events up to the present time.

Under existing circumstances I have deemed it proper to treat the Indians visiting this post in the kindest manner, and give the prominent men some small presents, as well as provisions, of which I hope you will approve.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. S. NEIGHBOURS,
Special Indian Agent.

To Colonel W. Medill,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

Sir: In compliance with your request to "assist the interpreter in holding talks with whatever Indians visited this post in your absence," I have obtained the following information:

On Sunday, 16th, Jack Harry arrived from the Comanche country, and reported the Indians peaceable and quiet; also, that Mo-po-cho-co-pie and several chiefs were on their way to this place, with some stolen horses. He also reports that Captain Johnson's company have killed a Caddo boy, without provocation, and that the Caddoes are very much excited about it. The brother of the boy killed came in with him, on his way to find Jose Maria, who had been given a passport, as you promised, to visit Louis Sanchez. The Caddo states, that on the 14th instant an old man and his boy started from the Caddo camp, on the head waters of the Aquilla, to hunt deer, and separated soon after leaving camp. Some time after this the old man's attention was attracted by the firing of some eight or nine shots, and observed some white men at a distance firing at what he supposed to be a buffalo or wolf; not taking further notice of the occurrence, he continued his hunt, and returned to camp at night. The boy did not return that night, and the Caddoes began to suspicion something wrong; the next morning a party started in search, and upon reaching the spot where the old man had seen and heard the firing the day before, found the body of the boy, shot in five places, viz: one shot through the hand, one through the thigh, one in his side, and two shots in his head; either of the last three would kill. I gave a passport to the Caddo to go for Jose Maria, and expect him back in two days.

Sunday eve, (16*th*.)—This evening, by the arrival of Mr. Rolfe, from Captain Johnston's station, I have received the following information, viz: that on the 9th inst., three surveyors, engaged in running the line of Peters' colony, were killed and scalped by some Indians, supposed to be Wichetas; they were found by the balance of the party who had just returned from the settlements, having been absent two days. It is supposed that the act was committed by the Wichitas out of revenge for the killing of their people by Highsmith's company. I also learned from Mr. Rolfe

the particulars concerning the killing of the boy. He states that the surveyors sent to Captain Johnson for assistance in burying those killed, and accordingly a party was sent up for that purpose. They returned to camp on Thursday eve. One of the company wagons had just arrived, and the driver reported having seen a party of six Indians on the road, and on inquiring what tribe they belonged to, could obtain no satisfactory answer. The next morning a scout commanded by Lieutenant Smith was started in search of these Indians to ascertain their intentions. They did not find the party, but discovered the boy at a short distance from camp; on sight, the party immediately started in pursuit, and on coming up called to him to stop. The boy being frightened, took no notice of the command, and kept on running; they then ran ahead and across his way for some time, but he still kept on, when one of the men thinking to stop him, made an attempt to secure his rifle, and caught hold of it; the boy drew his knife to defend himself, and was immediately shot through the hand, which was followed by a volley from the party. Mr. R. reports great excitement among the whites in the vicinity of the station, on account of the murder of the surveyors, and does not think it safe for any Indian to be about there unless he should go directly to the post.

This morning, on receipt of the news, I communicated the same to Captain S. P. Ross, requesting his attendance at this place to meet Jose Maria on his return.

Tuesday, April 18.—Jose Maria arrived to-day, and after discussing the matter for some time, he has promised to await the action of the commander of the frontier in the case of the boy. Some of his party, among whom are two brothers of the boy, are resolved on revenge, and it is with great difficulty that he can restrain them. He has succeeded in pacifying them, and will postpone further action in the case, until the matter can be investigated by the proper authorities. He states that the rangers must have known the boy to be a Caddo, as he has been furnishing them with game for some time past.

Captain Ross has forwarded a statement of the affair to Colonel Bell, at San Antonio, and Jose Maria has promised to keep his people quiet until he can hear from that quarter; but from the hostile feeling shown both by the rangers and Indians, it will be a difficult matter for him to do so. He promises to ascertain, if possible, what party of Indians killed the surveyors, and will bring in that information when he is called upon to hear the action of the commandant of the frontier in the case of the boy.

On the 20th, Mo-co-po-cho-co-pie, with a party of sixty Comanches, arrived, bringing in some stolen horses. The chiefs all expressed themselves as friendly disposed, and wish to continue their peaceful relations with the government. They state that they will not war with the white people, under any circumstances, and gave as a reason for their visit, that some of the more northern bands were about waylaying the Santa Fe road, and they wished the agent to know that they were not in any way interested in the movement.

After a visit of two days, they returned to their country, appearing well satisfied with the treatment they received while here.

Yours, respectfully,

C. E. BARNARD.

Major R. S. NEIGHBOURS.

No. 22—E.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL AGENCY,
June 15, 1848.

SIR: Having received no information from the Department in regard to the continuance of this special agency, I have deemed it proper, at the request of Governor Wood and Lieutenant Colonel Bell, to continue in the discharge of my usual duties until your wishes are made known on the subject, and have the honor to report that up to the present time there has been no act of hostility committed on our borders since the date of my last report. The Comanches, Caddoes, Ionies, Anadarkoes, Ton-ka-hu-as and Lipans have all been on our immediate borders most of the time, and have conducted themselves with as much propriety as could be expected, and still continue to give many evidences of their wish to preserve the stipulations of the existing treaty and remain at peace.

During the past fifteen days most of the bands have visited this post; also, a portion of the Wacos and Keechies. On the 12th instant all the principal chiefs of the Comanches, with a large body of warriors, visited this special agency for the purpose of holding a friendly talk with me, in which they expressed much uneasiness in regard to the position assumed by the troops on this frontier, and dissatisfaction on account of the indefinite position in which their affairs are placed. They had been informed by the friendly Indians that my term of service had expired, and that there had been no other agent appointed, which increased their fears "that the whites were disposed to break off all friendly intercourse with them and commence hostilities." I endeavored to re-assure them of the friendly disposition of the government, and was partially successful, as they agreed to await for the further action of the Department in their affairs, and expressed a determination to abide by their treaty stipulations until more definite arrangements.

In the latter part of last month, Santa Anna and a small party visited Austin for the purpose of holding a friendly talk with the governor; the consequence was that some few of the citizens, not being acquainted with the Indians, became alarmed, and the Indians were ordered by the governor to go above the posts, and one of the ranging companies (Captain Conner's) was ordered to escort them above the imaginary line. The Indians were frightened and left the settlement with much precipitation.

When they left this place on the 12th instant, they wished to hunt in the prairies below the stations. I referred them to Cap-

tain Ross, commanding the rangers near this post, as I did not deem it proper in me either to grant or refuse permission, having no orders to force the Indians above *any* given point. Captain Ross refused to permit them to hunt below his station, which offended the Comanches, who said they would go down at all hazard, as they wished to know at *once* what the white people would do. They say, "when we made a treaty, we believed the white people wished to be friendly. If they are not friendly, and the Comanches cannot go to their houses, there is no use in making treaties."

The Comanches immediately returned to their camp, and I have not heard as yet what they intend, but it is evident that the present policy of making a line by force will lead to hostility.

As yet there has been no measures taken to arrest the soldiers of Captain Johnson's company who killed the Caddo boy, although I made application to the commandant of this frontier at the time, and requested him to have the matter properly investigated, as I informed you on the 10th ultimo. These Indians are still awaiting the result of their application for redress, and unless the matter is properly noticed, I fully believe it will lead to serious difficulties. At this time the Caddo chief and the father of the boy killed are here. I have had much talk with them on the subject, and at the same time that they agree to abide by the stipulations of the treaty in regard to such occurrences, they say positively that unless we enforce it, they will personally seek to take satisfaction out of the company that killed the boy.

The Wichitas still hold themselves aloof from our councils, and occupy a very doubtful and threatening position, since their people were killed by Captain Highsmith's company. I am informed by the friendly Indians that they are making preparations to attack our frontier as soon as their corn is harvested. I have not been able to see them, and am at a loss what course to pursue to pacify them, unless instructed by the Commissioner what satisfaction to offer them. I would respectfully call the attention of the Commissioner to the propriety of giving the proper instructions at as early a day as practicable, as that difficulty might be adjusted without bloodshed, if the proper corrective was applied in time. I learn from the Keechies and Wacoes, who have been for some days at this place, that both the Wichetas and Caddoes intend to commence depredations on our frontier settlers, unless satifaction is given for the killing of their people by the rangers. In each case, the matter of killing the friendly Indians was promptly reported to the commanding officer, but I believe there will be no investigation unless he is ordered to do so by the Department. Unless some measures are adopted to check the disposition of the rangers to attack parties of friendly Indians whom they meet, it must, ere long, involve us in a war with them. I would seriously call the attention of the Commissioner to that subject, and respectfully suggest that the proper corrective be applied.

I have heretofore called your attention to the position assumed by the military on this frontier, in establishing an imaginary line, below which no Indians are to be permitted to come; thereby de-

priving them by force of what *they* consider to be their *rights*, when there is no treaty defining their boundary. This matter requires the early attention of the Department, as the present state of things cannot last, and every day weakens our friendly intercourse with the Indians. I am convinced that nothing but the fear of the present large force maintained on this frontier, (near one thousand men,) causes them peaceably to submit to this regulation. Their complaints are frequent, and all the tribes are anxious that I should call the attention of the Department to the subject.

I would respectfully call the attention of the Commissioner to the great necessity of making some arrangement for the regulation of trade and intercourse with the Indians of Texas. At present, every one who has a few articles to dispose of, or a few gallons of whiskey, and can come in contact with a party of Indians with a few skins, are anxious to trade; and there is no law to punish persons for introducing whiskey among the Indians. The traders from east of Red river, a short time since, opened a trading post at the Keechie village, on the Brassos river, which is in the very heart of the Indian country, and are supplying as much whiskey as they can sell. They keep it constantly on hand as a regular article of trade. In the present indefinite position of our Indian affairs, and having no authority or force to employ for its destruction, I cannot, in the least, interfere. I am at a loss what course to pursue in such cases, and have, therefore, deemed it my duty, and most proper, to await the action of the Department, and respectfully suggest that the Commissioner give such instructions as may be proper in such cases; as I have heretofore failed in endeavoring to regulate trade and intercourse for the want of proper authority to act. In my intercourse with the several bands, I have deemed it most proper to use all my influence to induce them to remain quiet until further action on the part of the government, without making any pledges for the future, but, at the same time, assuring them of the ultimate justice of the government; of which course I hope you will approve.

Your instructions of the 17th April, relative to the Kickapoos, has been communicated to the Indians who made the complaint, and they express a hope that they will not in future be troubled with them.

During the time that the Comanches were in, I found it absolutely necessary, in order to preserve friendly relations with them and the several other bands, to purchase a small supply of provisions and tobacco; of which purchase I hope you will approve.

Under existing circumstances, I have deemed it proper to await the instructions of the Commissioner, in regard to the continuance of the interpreter and armorer for the Indians, as I have no assurance that the Department would approve of their employment.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,
U. S. special Indian agent.

To Colonel W. Medill,
Com. Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 22—F.

United States Special Indian Agency,
June 26, 1848.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of May 6th, which only came to hand the 24th instant.

I am pleased to learn that our Indian affairs are being properly considered by Congress, and hope that something will be done to place them on a firm and permanent basis, as it is a matter in which our whole population are deeply interested. I believe the present to be the most favorable time, as any great delay under existing circumstances would much embarrass future negotiation with our wild or prairie Indians.

I hope the Commissioner will rest assured that I shall continue to use every exertion to maintain our influence and control over the several bands until the proposed action is had.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,
Special Indian agent.

To Colonel W. Medill,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 22—G.

United States Special Indian Agency,
August 10, 1848.

Sir: Since the date of my last report there has been no movement worthy of notice among our border tribes of Indians until about the 1st instant, when a small party, supposed to be Wichitas, Wacoes, and some of the upper Comanches, made a descent on our frontier, visiting the stations of Captains Highsmith and Crump, where they succeeded in stealing from the former company thirty, and the latter twenty horses, and made a hasty retreat beyond the mountains. About the same time two of Captain McCulloch's company were attacked a short distance from their camp, but they succeeded in gaining the timber, and after a short engagement the Indians retreated, after having, as is supposed, two of their warriors killed.

Whether this marauding will extend to any other band or not, I am unable to say; so far as is ascertained, the other tribes continue perfectly quiet and are awaiting, according to their agreement with me, the action of the government in regard to the settling of their several causes of complaint.

The Wichetas continually threaten to retaliate on Captain Highsmith's company for killing a portion of their tribe last spring, and I presume that to be the cause of the present hostile movements, as they have not approached our settlements.

On the 29th ultimo, Colonel Bell arrived at Torrey's trading house, where he had a talk with "Haso-dib-bar", one of the chiefs

of the Caddoes, and agreed to meet them on the 10th of September proximo, and have the men present who killed the "Caddo boy," for the purpose of investigating the matter, which it is hoped will lead to a friendly adjustment of their complaints.

I notified you in my last report that the Indian traders from the east of Red river were engaged in introducing a large quantity of whiskey among the wild tribes of Indians. I have just received information that they had arrived at the Caddo village on the Brassos, with eleven barrels of that article, and that the Indians are drinking to great excess.

Situated as I am I cannot control such matters; therefore respectfully urge the Department to take immediate measures to put a stop to such illicit traffic, only calculated to irritate the Indians and disturb our peaceful relations with them. I do not at present feel authorized to adopt any measures, in the absence of instructions from the Department, and therefore confine myself as much as possible only to inducing the Indians to remain quiet and await your action.

At the expiration of the year which terminated my appointment, (say 13th April last) the executive of this State and Lieutenant Colonel Bell, commanding this frontier, believing it to be essential to the preservation of peace with the Indians, requested me to continue in the discharge of my duties as agent, until the "views of the Department became known," and of which you have been duly informed heretofore.

I am much disappointed in not having been possessed of your views on the subject, as I could in such case act with confidence.

I hope you will, at as early a day as practicable, inform me whether or not my services since the end of my official appointment will be acknowledged, and my position defined.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS.

Colonel W. Medill,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 22—H.

U. S. Special Indian Agency,
Torrey's Trading Post, September 14, 1848.

Sir: I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report of my proceedings, observations, &c., since my report of 19th ult.

In my report of that date, I informed you that the Wacoes had stolen a number of horses from the rangers. I have since learned that the Indians were pursued to their villages by Lieutenant Williams, of Captain Highsmith's company, and all the horses recovered. It appears that as soon as the horse thieves returned, the horses were immediately taken from them by their chiefs, and the

Comanches, being at the village at the time, took the horses into their possession, and were in the act of bringing them in when Lieutenant Williams and his party arrived.

I herewith enclose a copy of the lieutenant's report, and he deserves much credit for the discretion used in the recovery of the horses. I feel convinced that it will lead to no serious difficulty.

Since that occurrence, the Keechie and Tah-wah-caro chiefs have visited this post, and report everything quiet in their villages. On the 10th instant a party of Delawares, in the employ of Mr. George Barnard, arrived direct from the Comanche village, and brought in the talks of the principal Comanche chiefs, which are entirely satisfactory. I deem it proper to state that most of the Comanche warriors are now on a foray in Mexico, and are doing much damage. The Delawares say that they return constantly with large numbers of horses, mules and prisoners.

On the 10th instant, in accordance with previous agreement, Colonel Bell, with a number of the officers of the rangers, arrived at this place, and all the principal chiefs of the Caddoes and their associates, for an adjustment of the misunderstanding occasioned by the killing of the Caddo boy. Those Indians came under the impression that the men who killed the boy would be present, and that they would see the punishment inflicted; and I felt fully convinced if the matter was not settled definitely while the parties were present, that it would lead to serious difficulties. I therefore (although your instructions were "to ascertain what would satisfy them") deemed it most proper, under the circumstances, to enter into a definite arrangement, which was effected, and put the matter at rest forever—a copy of which agreement I forward you this day for your consideration, and would respectfully recommend it to your approval, as the best arrangement that could possibly be made under all the circumstances. Had the men been arrested, and the matter properly and promptly investigated at the time of the occurrence, the adjustment would have been much easier; as it was, it required all the influence that I could possibly bring to bear to induce the Indians to agree to the present arrangement, and give up the idea of taking revenge. Colonel Bell and the company officers have agreed to bring the matter before the grand jury at the next session of the district court, which meets some time this fall.

I have not as yet been able to see any of the Wichetas, but have sent them a *talk*, and shall proceed to the upper Brassos to see them in a few days. There appears to be no other difficulty with our several border tribes, except that reported of the Lipans, to which I shall give my earliest attention. I have found it necessary, during the summer, to purchase a small amount of tobacco, and other articles that were necessary for the maintenance of friendly intercourse with the Indians, which amount, in all, to the sum of ($180) one hundred and eighty dollars. The articles were purchased of Mr. George Barnard; and I have deemed it proper to call your attention to the fact, and hope you will authorize me to draw for the amount whenever the appropriation is made.

I have not, as yet, been able to employ a proper interpreter, but I hope to procure one in a few days; my former interpreter having entered the employ of a private company, who are now on a tour of observation in Mexico.

On account of the many misunderstandings growing out of the several attacks on the Indians, I have deemed it proper to require an escort for my visit to the Wichetas, and Colonel Bell has furnished me with forty men for the occasion.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,

United States Special Indian Agent.

To Colonel W. MEDILL,

Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 22—I.

CAMP LLANO, *August* 20, 1848.

DEAR SIR: We have returned to day in good spirits—20 days absence. Your orders I understood was to report the particulars of the trip immediately. As you are acquainted with the first particulars, I will say nothing other than at the camp the first night, when the balance of the mules &c., returned, we then unanimously agreed, 21 in number, to proceed to their village for the balance, making it the easiest journey possible for our horses. On the ninth day, reaching the village, I sent two Delawares to inform all Indians not to be alarmed at the approach of the white people, that we were in pursuit of stolen horses. We arrived in sight of the farms (I suppose two hundred miles above here) about 3 o'clock, on which we discovered the white flags flying; nearing their village they made a very pretty display to meet us, Keechies, Caddoes, and Comanches; the latter camped about 5 miles above, 500 in number. It appears on the arrival of the stolen horses, the Comanches with the others had demanded the horses, and were in their possession, which were handed over that evening of our arrival, (22 in number.) The next morning we understood three mules and three horses had just arrived. We also demanded them. The mules we had discovered belonged to the Dutch, the horses to some Delawares. Owing to the distressed condition of the stolen horses, we were compelled to return very slow. We were overtaken by two Delawares, who informed us they arrived at the village the day after we left, and had got a portion of the horses stolen from them; and also informed us that 12 head had been brought in the night of the day we left. I had forgot to mention that in all instances where horses &c., was taken, it was done by the Wacoes and Keechies. During the evening and the next day while we remained in their neighborhood we were treated very kindly, and from their conversations with John Conner, that they wish it continued; but they think it impossible to prevent the

Wacoes and a portion of the Keechies from pursuing their course. Last, not least, while promenading through the village, we discovered a fine looking gentleman of color, somewhat inclined to be bow-legged, also very dark, which we mustered into service and brought into camp, until such opportunity that his master may get him. He says his name is Abram, and belongs to John Ec!eson on the Brassos, near Nashville. I shall now conclude, not forgetting to remind ycu that all the company is well and in fine spirits.

Your obedient servant,

A. WILLIAMS, *Lieutenant.*

To Captain HIGHSMITH,
San Antonio, Texas.

No. 22—K.

UNITED STATES SPECIAL AGENCY,
Texas, October 23, 1848.

SIR: Having this day returned from a visit to the Indian country, I have the honor to report everything quiet and peaceable among the several bands that I visited, viz: Ionies, Caddoes, Wacoes, Keechies, Tahwaccaros and Camanches. I arrived at the main village of the Ionies, Caddoes, and Keechies on the 4th instant, and remained a day or two with them.

I found that most of the principal men and a large portion of their families had already started on their fall hunt; they were, consequently, much scattered, but, so far as I could learn, there was nothing calculated to disturb our peaceful and friendly relations with them.

On the 8th instant I fell in with a hunting party of Comanches, who were perfectly friendly and acted as my guides to their main camp, which I found on the head of the Clear Fork of the Brassos, about 300 miles west of Torrey's trading post. The principal chief of the village was Santa Anna. A large portion of the principal men and warriors of the lower band, (Hois,) with a few of the Ten-a-wish, were present. Our reception was such as inspired us with the utmost c nfidence in their determination to remain at peace. During the time I remained in the village (three days) I was treated in the kindest manner; and, although all matters appertaining to our relations with them were fully discussed, nothing of importance, or of an unpleasant nature, occurred. During the past summer small war parties of the Comanches have, on several occasions, as heretofore reported, come in contact with our troops west of San Antonio, in which some blood has been spilled on both sides; fearful that these rencontres would finally lead to serious difficulty, I endeavored to ascertain on my visit the cause of such occurrences, and to induce the chiefs to interfere and put a stop to such proceedings. The chief that commanded most of the parties was present, and pointed out to me. On inquiring o' him the cause of his hos-

tility, he expressed himself as not disposed to be hostile, and laid the blame on our own troops. He says: "In our treaty we agreed to be at peace with the white people; but we have not made peace with the Mexicans. Your troops are stationed on our war roads leading to the lower Rio Grande; whenever we pass down, your troops follow us and commence fighting without stopping to talk with us. I once went out to talk to your soldiers; but they fired on, and came near killing me. Since then, as soon as we see the soldiers, we prepare to fight. I do not wish to fight with your troops; I wish to be friends with them; I will be friendly, and not molest your people, or steal horses on this side of the Rio Grande, if your soldiers will let me pass without molestation." I then inquired of him respecting the attack on Captain Crump's company, and the stealing of his horses. He very readily stated that it was his party that had stolen them, and not the Lipans; that two of the horses had been given up; and that he had the balance of them, but was not willing to give them up, as they had lost several horses in their skirmishes. The name of this chief is "Kar-wa-be-bo-we-bit," or "can see nothing;" he is one of the signers of the treaty made by Messrs. Butler and Lewis.

I endeavored to persuade the Comanches to avoid the country between the Rio Grande and San Antonio; but was only partially successful; they promised, however, to visit our stations friendly when they wanted to go down, and I gave the chief a paper certifying our agreements. I learned from the Comanches that the Lipans were camped on the head waters of the Colorado, about 100 miles from them, and had declared themselves hostile, and would, under no circumstances, make peace until they had full satisfaction. Santa Anna, acknowledging that the Comanches were to blame in bringing the Lipans into trouble, has undertaken to bring them in, and to assist me in an adjustment with them. We are to meet in San Antonio for that purpose on the 2d November.

I find myself unable to make any suggestions that would put an end to serious difficulties, growing out of the collisions between our troops and the Indians. I feel fully satisfied that they are caused more by the indiscretion or inexperience of the volunteer officers on our frontier than anything else; and if the Department would require them to carry the stipulations of the treaty into full force and effect, and not allow them the privilege of making war at discretion, all Indian difficulties would soon cease. Under the present system the treaty is forgotten, and, if a horse is stolen by an Indian, there is no demand made, through the agent, for his recovery, but the first party of Indians that is fallen in with is attacked and massacred. I would respectfully call the serious attention of the Commissioner to this subject.

I notified you in my last report that a detachment of the troops would accompany me on my trip. Captain Ross, with fifty of his men, made the entire trip with me, and, from the discretion of Captain R., and the discipline of his troops, I am disposed to believe that the impression was decidedly favorable. All the time we were in the Indian country the utmost harmony prevailed

between the troops and Indians, and they expressed themselves highly pleased with the visit. The troops penetrated the Indian country about 150 miles further than any party of whites have heretofore done from this frontier, and I am under the impression that it will be decidedly beneficial to bring the troops into friendly contact with the Indians. I have temporarily employed, as an interpreter, Jack Harry, a Delaware Indian, commencing from the 20th September, and Jesse Sutton as a blacksmith, from the 28th August, to execute the necessary work to the amount of two hundred dollars ($200) per annum.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. S. NEIGHBORS,
Special Indian agent, U. S.

Col. W. Medill,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 22—L.

[Received at Office Indian Affairs, since annual report was prepared.]

San Antonia, (Texas.)
November 7, 1848.

Sir: In my last report I notified you of my agreement to meet the Comanche and Lipan chiefs in San Antonio, for the purpose of adjusting the unfortunate difficulties between Captain Crump's company of rangers and the Lipan Indians, and recovering the company's losses. I accordingly proceeded to this place, accompanied by a small party of Comanches and one Delaware, Jack Harry, as interpreter, and have remained here several days without hearing anything of the Indians expected. I am unable to account for their failure to come, but presume that they, learning that considerable damage had been done by depredators on our citizens, since I left their country, were afraid to venture into our settlements.

Since my arrival I have endeavored, as far as lay in my power, to ascertain the extent of the damages and depredations committed, and who were the depredators; and from the best information I can get, it appears that from eighteen to twenty persons have been killed or are missing, and about forty horses and mules stolen, between the Guadaloupe river and this place. This has all transpired since the 26th of last September, and I am satisfied that, so far as Indians are concerned in this matter, it was none other but the Lipans; and that the deaths of those persons and the stealing of the horses, so far as the Indians were concerned, is justly chargeable to the unfortunate attack made on them by Lieutenant Brown. A large number of our most intelligent citizens are under the impression that only a portion of the damages were done by Indians; that there were malicious white men engaged in it; whether this is

true or not I have no means at present to ascertain. One thing is evident; there is, at present, large parties of vagabonds in this vicinity, (followers of the army from Mexico,) who are capable of committing all manner of crimes. I notified you in my report of September, that Col. P. H. Bell had promised to use every exertion to recover the Lipan horses and turn them over to the quartermaster; I now find that none of those animals have been recovered, and that the company has been paid off and discharged from the service. Also, that the horses were divided among the captors—who still retain possession of them—who are so much scattered that the horses cannot by any means be recovered. I presume Col. Bell will report to the Department why the horses were not taken possession of as contemplated.

The late occurrence has caused a feeling of strong resentment to exist in the minds of some of our citizens towards Indians in general, and the Lipans in particular; and I have heard threats made by some to shoot the first Indian they meet with. I have deemed it proper to discourage such threats as much as possible, both with our citizens and the volunteer troops, as a few more attacks similar to the one made on the Lipans, *must* involve us in difficulties with the wild Indians that it would be impossible to adjust without much *blood*.

The Indians having failed to meet me here, I have deemed it proper to send Jack Harry with the party of Comanches to the Lipan camp, with an invitation for them to meet me at Torry's trading-house, as soon as possible, when I hope to ascertain their further intentions, of which you shall be duly informed.

All other Indians on our borders are perfectly friendly and quiet.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBORS,
United States Special Indian Agent.

Colonel W. Medill,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

Treasury Department,
Third Auditor's Office, October 31, 1848.

Sir: In regard to the usual report required to be made of the number of unsettled accounts received in the last three years, which will not be included in my annual report to the First Comptroller of the Treasury, under the act of the 3d March, 1809, and 3d of March, 1817, of balances appearing to be due to the United States, more than three years, &c., I have the honor to state that there are now on file, remaining unsettled, one thousand and sixty-six accounts; of these, twenty-five were received in the year 1846;

three hundred and eighty-four in 1847, and six hundred and fifty-seven in 1848.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PETER HAGNER, *Auditor.*

Hon. Wm. L. Marcy,
Secretary of War.

Treasury Department,
Second Auditor's Office, December 2, 1848.

Sir: In compliance with your request of the 1st instant, I have the honor to transmit herewith a statement in duplicate, showing the number of accounts remaining unsettled in this office on the 1st instant, and which have been received within the last three years.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN M. McCALLA,
Second Auditor.

Hon. Wm. L. Marcy,
Secretary of War.

Number of accounts remaining in the office of the Second Auditor, unsettled on the 1st of December, 1848, and which were received in the last three years, viz :

	Number received in—			
	1846.	1847.	1848.	Total.
CASH ACCOUNTS, VIZ :				
Paymasters United States army	....	2	62	64
Recruiting	5	43	395	443
Miscellaneous, consisting of ordnance, clothing, medical, &c	10	107	271	388
Indian affairs	....	20	37	57
Deceased and discharged officers and soldiers	105	494	4,559	5,158
Total number of cash accounts	120	666	5,324	6,110
PROPERTY ACCOUNTS, VIZ :				
Ordnance—forts, posts, &c	11	85	221	317
company arms, &c	1	38	450	489
Clothing and camp and garrison equipage	1	32	427	460
Indian department	3	4	10	17
Total number of property accounts	16	159	1,108	1,283

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Second Auditor's Office, December* 2, 1848.

JOHN M. McCALLA, *Second Auditor.*